

Ariful Islam Anik

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Summary

I'm a UX researcher and designer passionate about creating thoughtful, human-centered experiences. As a UX researcher, I blend qualitative and quantitative research methods to better understand user needs and how they interact with technology. As a designer, I develop clear, intuitive interfaces that support understanding and meaningful engagement with complex systems.

Experiences

Graduate Research Assistant, *University of Manitoba, Canada.* Sept 2018 – Dec 2025

- Conducted research on human-centered explainable AI (HCXAI), focusing on improving the usability and transparency of AI systems through user-centered design and evaluation.
- Designed and implemented prototypes, developed study protocols, and led mixed-methods user studies to assess understanding, cognitive load, and critique accuracy.
- Analyzed both quantitative (e.g., parametric and non-parametric statistical tests) and qualitative (e.g., thematic analysis) data to generate actionable insights.
- Authored and published research in top-tier venues, including ACM and IEEE conferences (e.g., ACM IUI 2026, IEEE VL/HCC 2024, ACM CHI 2021).
- Collaborated with other HCI researchers and co-mentored undergraduate students on HCI research projects.

Sessional Instructor, *University of Manitoba, Canada.* Sept 2024 – Dec 2024

- Facilitated discussions and activities for a third-year HCI course (COMP 3020), to 60 students.
- Provided direction, formative feedback, and guidance on student projects, helping students critically reflect on their UX decisions and align their work with HCI best practices.

Assistant Programmer, *Islamic University of Technology, Bangladesh.* Dec 2016 – Aug 2018

- Developed a point-of-sale and cafeteria content system using Java EE and Java Swing.
- Maintained and extended internal systems (Accounting, Procurement) using JSF and JasperReports.
- Managed Oracle and MySQL databases, and generated reports for administrative use.
- Participated in the full software development lifecycle, from system analysis and design to implementation, testing, and ongoing support.

Software Development Intern, *DataSoft Systems, Bangladesh.* Nov 2015 – Dec 2015

- Contributed to the development of a HR System and enhancements to the MicroFin360 mobile app.
- Integrated location-based services and Google Maps API into the Android application to support employee tracking and geo-tagged actions.

Skills

- **UX Research:** User-Centered Design, Experiment Design, Prototyping, User Studies, Interviews, Surveys, Heuristic Evaluation, Cognitive Walkthroughs, Personas, Usability Testing.
- **Data Analysis:** Mixed Methods, Statistical Analysis (Parametric & Nonparametric), Qualitative Analysis, Data Visualization.
- **Technical:** Java, Python, C/C++, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, R, SQL, Machine Learning.
- **Tools:** Figma, Qualtrics, Prolific, Userback, SurveyMonkey, SPSS, GitHub, Android Studio, NetBeans, PyCharm, Jupyter Notebook.

Education

- **PhD in Computer Science**, University of Manitoba. Sept 2020 – Apr 2026
Thesis: Investigating Impact of Design Factors on Training Dataset Explanations.
- **MSc in Computer Science**, University of Manitoba. Sept 2018 – Dec 2020
Thesis: Investigating the Feasibility of Explanations that Communicate Training Dataset Information.
- **BSc in Computer Science and Engineering**, Islamic University of Technology. Dec 2012 – Dec 2016

Selected Publications

- **Ariful Islam Anik** and Andrea Bunt. *Designing Effective Training Dataset Explanations: The Impact of Information Depth and Progressive Disclosure*. ACM IUI, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3742413.3789087>
- **Ariful Islam Anik** and Andrea Bunt. *Supporting User Critiques of AI Systems via Training Dataset Explanations: Investigating Critique Properties and the Impact of Presentation Style*. IEEE VL/HCC, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1109/VL/HCC60511.2024.00024>
- **Ariful Islam Anik** and Andrea Bunt. *Diversity Challenges in Recruiting for Human-Centered Explainable AI Studies*. IEEE VL/HCC Workshop, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1109/VL/HCC60511.2024.00067>
- **Ariful Islam Anik** and Andrea Bunt. *Data-Centric Explanations: Explaining Training Data of Machine Learning Systems to Promote Transparency*. ACM CHI, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3411764.3445736>
- **Ariful Islam Anik**, Mehedi Hassan, Hasan Mahmud, and Kamrul Hasan. *Activity Recognition of a Badminton Game Through Accelerometer and Gyroscope*. ICCIT, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICCTEchn.2016.7860197>

Services & Leadership

- Graduate Student Representative, CS Faculty Search Committee, University of Manitoba (2022)
- Program Committee Member, Human-Centered XAI Workshop @ ACM CHI (2023, 2024)
- Paper Reviewer – CHI (2022–2026), CSCW (2024), DIS (2022), TIIS (2024)
- Recognized for Outstanding Reviews – CHI 2023, CHI 2024, CHI 2026