

ANNELIESE BREI

abrei@cs.unc.edu | [LinkedIn](#) | [GoogleScholar](#) | <https://adbrei.com>

Research Interests

Natural Language Processing, Natural Language Generation, Narrative Understanding, Text Evaluation

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH)

Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science

Aug 2022 – Present

M.Sc. in Computer Science

May 2024

Advisor: Prof. Snigdha Chaturvedi

William & Mary (W&M)

Aug 2018 – May 2022

BS in Computer Science (with Honors)

Summa Cum Laude 4.0/4.0 GPA

Minor in Creative Writing

Undergraduate Advisor: Prof. Bin Ren, Prof. Qun Li (research)

Study Abroad at Christ's College, Cambridge University, UK

July – Aug 2019

Experience

Research Assistant, UNC-CH

Aug 2022 – Present

Advisor: Prof. Snigdha Chaturvedi

Computer Science Consultant, W&M

Aug 2020 – May 2022

Supervisor: Prof. Peter Kemper

Teaching Assistant, CSCI 301 Software Development, W&M

Summer 2021

Supervisor: Prof. Peter Kemper

Marketing Coordinator, Raymond A. Mason School of Business

Jan 2019 - Jan 2021

Supervisor: Jeffrey Rich

Intern, Center for Legal & Court Technology, W&M School of Law

May – Aug 2019

Supervisor: Prof. Fredric Lederer

July – Aug 2018

Publications

Conference papers

Returning to the Start: Generating Narratives with Related Endpoints

Anneliese Brei, Chao Zhao, Snigdha Chaturvedi

Proceedings of NAACL 2024. [[Paper](#)][[Poster](#)][[Slides](#)][[Code](#)]

Theses

Quantum Federated Learning: Training Hybrid Neural Networks Collaboratively

Advisor: Prof. Qun Li

Undergraduate Honors Thesis, William & Mary, May 2022 [[Paper](#)][[Site](#)][[Video](#)]

Books

Available as paperbacks on [Amazon](#) and [Barnes & Noble Online Bookstore](#):

- [The von Neumann Boutique](#), Prototype Educational Novel, Kindle Direct Publishing, 2020.
- [The Song of Paquita](#), YA Novel, Kindle Direct Publishing, 2017.
- [Clocks Out of Time](#), YA Novel, CreateSpace, 2015.
- [She Watches](#), YA Novel, CreateSpace, 2014.

Creative Fiction/Nonfiction & Essays

- [Wake Up Call](#), Non-fiction Winner 2021, \$2500 prize, Newton-Blanchard [[announcement](#)]
- [The Memory](#), Long Story Short Award Fall 2020, Short Fiction, Short Édition [[site](#)]
- Essay Finalist, The Fountainhead Essay Contest 2018, \$100 prize, The Ayn Rand Institute [[announcement](#)]

Honors

Fellowships

- **Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP)**, National Science Foundation five-year fellowship awarded to graduate students, 2023-2027
- **Royster Society PhD Fellowship**, UNC-CH five-year fellowship awarded to one Computer Science student and only ten students across all doctoral programs in the 2022 cohort, 2022-2027
- **Departmental Honors with Honors Fellowship**, W&M undergraduate honorary designation with \$4000 grant to conduct research, 2021-2022

Awards

- **HLF Young Researcher Attendee & Travel Grant**, 11th Heidelberg Laureate Forum, among 200 attendees selected worldwide, 2024
- **Grace Hopper Conference Scholarship**, AnitaB.org, 2023
- **Computing Research Association (CRA-WP) Attendee & Travel Grant**, 2023
- **Stephen K. Park Undergraduate Scholarship Award**, W&M award of \$1000 given to top graduating undergraduate computer science student, 2022
- **Dean's List**, all semesters at W&M, 2018-2022
- **Phi Beta Kappa Member**, W&M nomination and induction into Alpha Chapter of Virginia, 2021
- **Rocket Pitch Winner**, Alan B. Miller Entrepreneurship Center, best presentation at weekly Rocket Pitch Competition, awarded \$100, selected for final round, 2021
- **James Monroe Scholarship**, W&M, Top academically distinguished undergraduates (5-7% sophomores). Awarded \$3000 summer research grant, 2020-2022
- **Alpha Lambda Delta & Phi Eta Sigma**, W&M first-year honor societies, awarded to freshmen with 3.5 or greater GPA, 2019

Service

Workshop Organization

- Workshop Organizer, The Seventh Workshop on Narrative Understanding, NAACL 2025
- Workshop Organizer, The Sixth Workshop on Narrative Understanding, [[Site](#)] EMNLP 2024
- Steering Committee, Global Royster Conference, King's College London, [[Site](#)] June 2024
- Steering Committee, Global Royster Conference, UNC-CH, [[Site](#)] May 2023
- Planning Board Member, W&M Cypher VII Hackathon, [[Site](#)] Mar 2022
- Planning Board Member, W&M Cypher VI Hackathon, [[Site](#)] Apr 2021

Reviewer

- The Sixth Workshop on Narrative Understanding, EMNLP 2024
- The Fifth Workshop on Narrative Understanding, ACL 2023

Invited Talks

- *How Does Narratology Influence Research in NLP?*, **Guest Lecturer** for ENGL 105: English Composition and Rhetoric, UNC-CH, Nov 2024
- *An Introduction to Research That Bridges NLP and Narratology*, **Guest Lecturer** for ROML 501 Introduction to Digital Humanities, UNC-CH, Oct 2024
- *Are LLMs Helpful Assistants for Understanding Narratives?*, **Working Group Talk** at Sociotechnical Consequences of AI: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Ethical, Organizational, Social, and Computational Dimensions International Workshop, UNC-CH, Sep 2024
- *How Can a Researcher Use AI to Better Connect with a Community?*, [[Site](#)] **Workshop Talk** at Global Royster Conference, Kings College London, June 2024
- *Detecting the Unreliable Narrator & Other Work with Narratology and AI*, [[Site](#)] **Research Presentation** at Global Royster Conference, UNC-CH, June 2024
- *'Returning to the Start', Research as a UNC Graduate Student*, **Research Presentation** at UNC-CH Graduate School Advocacy and Development Board Planning Meeting, Apr 2024
- *Jaunting Through a Neural Network*, [[Site](#)] **SciArt Gallery Presentation** at W&M Student Showcase, Apr 2021
- *The von Neumann Boutique: A Published Novel That Introduces Computer Science & Ada Lovelace in a Smart Shop Framework*, [[Site](#)] **Research Presentation** at W&M Undergraduate Research Month, Apr 2021

Research Posters & Visual Abstracts

- *A Tale of a Story Generator: Incorporating Narratology into Natural Language Generation & Analysis*, **Visual Abstract** [[Site](#)], Global Royster, May 2023
- *Power & Justice in the Age of Transformers*, **Poster**, Global Royster, May 2023
- *Addressing Narrative Coherence*, **Poster**, CRA-WP 2023 Grad Cohort Workshop, Apr 2023
- *Quantum Federated Learning: Training Hybrid Neural Networks Collaboratively*, **Poster & Video Presentation**, [[Site](#)][[Video](#)], William & Mary Undergraduate Research Month, Apr 2022
- *The von Neumann Boutique: A Novel That Introduces Computer Science & Ada Lovelace in a Smart Shop Framework*, **Visual Abstract**, [[Site](#)], William & Mary Undergraduate Research Month, Apr 2021

Outreach

- *Computers and Writing with LLMs, NLP Research Demonstration*, Open House for Middle & High School Students & Families, Jan 2023

Service

- Graduate Student Experience, UNC-CH
 - Faculty Mentor Training Workshop Group, Aug 2024-Present
 - RA STEM Working Group, Jan 2024-May 2024
- NSF GRFP Peer Review (reviewing UNC-CH applicants' essays before their submission), 2023, 2024
- Phi Beta Kappa, Richmond Association (serving the Commonwealth of Virginia)
 - Vice President, Mar 2024-Present
- Computer Science Student Association, UNC-CH
 - Officer, Aug 2022-Present
- Agency 1693, W&M
 - Co-President, Chief Strategy Officer, Mar-Oct 2020
 - Director of On-Campus Accounts, May 2019-2020
 - Member, Sep 2018-May 2019

University Memberships

- UNC-CH Graduate Women in Computer Science Group, Aug 2022–Present
- W&M Association for Computing Machinery, Jan 2020–May 2022
- W&M Society of Women in Computing, Aug 2021–May 2022