

I am currently looking for a User Experience Research Internship for Summer 2026 (United States).

My Journey: I am an architect and designer turned UX researcher who believes that good research is what drives good design and generates meaningful impact for users. I began my career in architectural and graphic design, using VR to understand how architectural design affects occupants' emotions and behavior. This work helped me recognize the powerful intersection of design and technology—and that the success of any product ultimately depends on rigorous user research and a deep understanding of human needs.

To build expertise in human-centered research, I began a Ph.D. in Architecture at Penn State, but soon realized that I needed stronger training in quantitative research and psychology. I made a deliberate transition to the Department of Mass Communications to refine my skills as a media psychology researcher, allowing me to conduct rigorous media psychology and HCI studies.

Professionally, I am detail-oriented and efficient: Coming from a design background, I believe in rapid iteration, learning from failure, and making informed tradeoffs to drive product decisions. This mindset aligns more naturally with industry than academia. While academia has equipped me with strong theoretical and methodological foundations to eventually grow into a research director, it is the fast-paced, applied environment of industry where I thrive. I am committed to conducting research that is both detail-oriented and efficient, enabling quick and confident design decisions.

A team player with a strong work ethic: I have collaborated across disciplines including architecture, nutritional sciences, media psychology, and HCI, leading projects with international and interdisciplinary teams. My strong work ethic, clear communication, and ability to align diverse perspectives enable me to contribute effectively in fast-paced, collaborative environments.

Creative and interdisciplinary: My diverse background allows me to approach problems holistically and drive innovation. Working across architecture, VR, and AI, has trained me to understand stakeholder needs, explore unconventional solutions, and ask research questions that bridge disciplines and push the boundaries of design and technology.

Personally, I am a bold and resilient person: When I realized my original academic path was not aligned with my goals, I made the bold decision to transition fields—and still created meaningful impact. I am not afraid of hard work or hard decisions when they serve a long-term vision.

I believe in working hard and bringing passion and creativity to everything I do—and I hope to bring this spirit to your company.