



Yerin Ko, Ed.M. – Research Assistant

Yerin Ko holds a Master's degree in Education and brings expertise in applied research and evaluation, with a focus on educational technology, early childhood education, and behavioral health. Yerin is skilled in qualitative and quantitative research for product and program evaluation and user research. She is experienced in engaging with diverse stakeholder groups including youth, parents/caretakers, and special needs students. Yerin is bicultural and fluent in Korean.

Experience

EVALCORP (Irvine, CA) | *2025-Present*

Research Assistant

- Conducts qualitative and quantitative data analyses, interpreting findings to derive meaningful insights and inform decision-making processes.
- Supports evaluations for programs in the areas of community behavioral health and education.
- Supports collection of data through various methods including interviews, focus groups, and surveys, ensuring data integrity and compliance with project requirements.
- Maintains project datasets, including entering, verifying, cleaning, and coding data.
- Develops evaluation and data analysis plans, including data collection tools.
- Conducts literature reviews.
- Creates data visualizations and summaries of data.
- Prepares reports summarizing both qualitative and quantitative findings for non-technical audiences, incorporating actionable recommendations tailored to project requirements.
- Provides training to program staff as needed (evaluation and data use capacity building).

LXD Research (Needham Heights, MA) | *2024-2025*

Learning Experience Research Intern

- Designed and implemented mixed methods lookback study on STEM curriculum program using R and Knit, resulting in 4 statistically significant findings and used for certification applications and clients' marketing teams.
- Optimized survey design methodology for product usability study, resulting in 84% increase in user response rates.
- Conducted semi-structured interviews and usability study with 20+ participants, achieving 100% completion rate and identifying 7 critical user pain points of literacy product.
- Created data visualizations, foundational literature reviews, research and design reports to share research findings with stakeholders, achieving 67% success rate in Digital Promise Certification.

Harvard Graduate School of Education (Cambridge, MA) | *2025*

Data Analyst Consultant

- Led end-to-end predictive analysis project to identify at-risk applicants for summer higher-ed program, analyzing 3,300+ applications across 3 years of Salesforce CRM data.
- Developed and implemented machine learning model (random forest) on R to predict non-enrollment for summer 2025 development programs.
- Elaborated findings in final quarto markdown file and report for review by the Professional Education Department.

CodeCombat (Cambridge, MA) | *2025*

UX Researcher

- Managed end-to-end research project for gaming platform called AI HackStack with focus on user behavior and product evaluation.
- Developed and implemented study instruments such as think-aloud contextual inquiries, interviews, and surveys with 1100+ users, identifying 8 UX improvements.
- Utilized learning analytics to evaluate user behavior, engagement, platform navigation in interactive learning environments.
- Transformed qualitative and quantitative user data into actionable strategies for the curriculum and software development teams.

PBS SoCal (Costa Mesa, CA) | 2024

Early Learning Intern

- Facilitated focus groups with 40+ participants for Family Math Workshops and educator training sessions.
- Designed educational content posters that increased workshop attendance and public awareness metrics by 50%.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to evaluate and distribute educational content across 6 schools.

UCI Digital Learning Lab (Irvine, CA) | 2023-2024

Research Assistant

- Conducted data collection by administering 100+ AI conversational agent implemented PBS Kids programming in dual-immersion schools.
- Organized, transcribed, coded, and analyzed 50+ recordings of students' verbal/nonverbal responses to identify behavior patterns, knowledge retention, and comprehension.

UCI Connect Learning Lab (Irvine, CA) | 2023-2024

Research Assistant

- Lead researcher in sub-study: conducted content analysis on 200+ underage social media accounts, categorizing 3,000+ posts to examine digital engagement patterns in online communities (Instagram and TikTok).
- Analyzed content metrics across 42 variables, identifying descriptive stats and significant findings.
- Built systematic frameworks on Qualtrics to streamline data coding process and reduce coding errors by 22%.

Education

Ed.M., Learning Design, Innovation, & Technology; Harvard Graduate School of Education (Cambridge, MA) | 2025

B.A., Education Sciences; University of California, Irvine (Irvine, CA) | 2024