

John Harris

User Experience
Researcher



Professional Summary

Combining a robust anthropological background with a thick-descriptive approach to user experience, I bring a future-minded, mixed-methods, and life-centered approach to UX research. My skills in conducting comprehensive field studies, detailed data analysis, and thorough reporting seamlessly translate into holistically grasping user interactions. I excel at asking the right questions to uncover meaningful insights to impactfully solve user problems yet also mindful of affected non-users.

Contact Me



harrisanthropologicalresearch@pm.me



Cedar Park
TX, U.S.A.



406-207-3898



Portfolio:
Harrisanthroresearch.com

Tool Skills:

Surveys & Questionnaires

Google Forms
Microsoft Forms
Qualtrics
Survey Monkey

Analysis

Microsoft Excel
Power BI

Prototyping

Figma

Usability Testing

Maze

Project Mgt.

Trello

Remote Comm.

Google Meet
Microsoft Outlook
Microsoft Teams
Miro
Slack
Zoom (Workplace)



UX Projects

User Experience Designer & Researcher

April 2024–Present

Harris Anthropological Research, Cedar Park, Texas

- **Project: Meal Maven**

Objective: Design an app and responsive website for meal planning recipes with on-hand ingredients and sensitive to diverse preferences.

Methods & Tools: surveys, interviews, empathy mapping, affinity mapping, competitive analysis, field study, journey mapping, competitor usability testing, card sorting, usability testing, Excel, Google Forms, and Figma.

- **Project: NRCS Texas Cultural Resource Specialist SharePoint Information Architecture**

Objective: Discover an intuitive and user-friendly site content map, schema, and design for both Conservation Planner UI and Cultural Resource Specialist UI for their respective sides of the SharePoint

Methods & Tools: Hybrid moderated card sorting, static mark-up and evaluation, informal usability testing

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Skills:

Misc. Tools

AI (Gemini, CoPilot)
prompt engineering
Calendly
Microsoft PowerPoint
Microsoft Word
Publisher

Soft Skills

Attention to Detail
Contextuality
Critical Thinking
Continuous Improvement
Creativity
Curiosity
Deep focus
Empathy
Giving constructive feedback
Listen and learning before proposing solutions
Observative
Problem-solving
Synthesizing information
Systems Thinking
Teaching and "evangelism"
Time Management
Visual thinker/learner



Work Experience

Archaeologist (Cultural Resource Specialist)

Jan. 19, 2020—Present

Natural Resource Conservation Service—Texas, Temple
GS-0193 –11, Step 3, Full-time, 40hr/ wk, Career Permanent Status
Supervisor: Alan Stahnke , State Soil Scientist, (254) 742-9857

* Awarded four performance spot awards in the four years at NRCS.

- **Field studies and Artifact Analysis:** Led extensive material and behavioral research investigations to obtain actionable insights. Examined objects in their material, aesthetic, interactive, and socio-cultural contexts, which is transferrable to innovative product design and understanding users relationships to things.
- **Project Leadership:** Managed and executed large-scale research projects, ensuring adherence to compliance standards and delivering comprehensive reports to stakeholders.
- **Data Analysis and Reporting Savy:** Analyzed qualitative and quantitative data to generate insightful reports, supporting strategic decision-making and improvements on program design.
- **Team Training & Mentorship:** Trained and mentored team members in best practices of research methodologies and the nexus of relevant policy and law, ensuring consistent compliance and effective research execution.
- **Stakeholder and Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration:** Acted as a liaison, advisor, and subject matter expert to non-specialists. Sought efficient and empathetic means to address resource concerns, confidentiality concerns, business interests,
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Advised on cultural considerations and advocated for user-centered design principles in projects' information architecture and accessibility design.

Archaeology Technician

May 13, 2019—Sep 26, 2019

Colville National Forest, Reg. 6 Republic Dist. —Republic, Washington

GS-0102–05, Full-time, 40hr/ wk, Competitive Temporary Status
Supervisor: Alicia Beat , Forest Archaeologist, (509) 684-7251

- **Field Studies**—Conducted comprehensive field work capturing material evidence of human behavior and interpreting past human activities. Coordinated and supervised diverse data input from a large team.
- **Data Analysis and Entry**—Analyzed and recorded material cultural data and conducted background research to inform design and management decisions
- **Report Writing and Documentation**—Compiled detailed research reports, including background research and evaluations to support management strategies
- **Data Auditing**—Conducted data audits of Forest site records to ensure completeness, accuracy, and digital migration of physical records across multiple digital recordkeeping systems.

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Research Methods

2x2 Matrices
Affinity Mapping
Archival (Primary Res.)
Artifact Analysis
Behavioral Mapping
Card Sorting
Cognitive Mapping
Competitive Analysis
Concept Mapping
Content Analysis
Data Analytics
Data Visualization
Document Analysis
Empathy Mapping
Field Studies
Guerilla User Testing
Hermeneutics
How-Might-We
Interviews
Journey Mapping
Literature Reviews
Participatory Design
Persona Development
Questionnaires
Role play
Secondary Research
Stakeholder Mapping
Static Eval. & Markup
Storyboarding
Surveys
Task Analysis
Usability Testing
Value Proposition Gen.
Weighted Matrix



Work Experience continued...

Visitor Surveyor / Research Assistant

Aug 2018–May 2019

Institute of Tourism and Recreation Research, University of Montana – Missoula, Montana

Part-Time, 15+hr/ wk

Supervisor: Megan Schultz, (406) 243-6454

- **Interviewing and Surveying** – Personalized user research in guerilla street interviews and surveys, collecting behavioral and attitudinal data in its qualitative and quantitative forms for understanding Montana's tourists.
- **Independent Research Execution**- Successfully conducted independent user research projects with minimal to no supervision.
- **Adaptability**– Conducted research in various environments and conditions, showing flexibility and resilience. Approached different individuals in different ways to build rapport and goodwill for participation.

Air Force (User) Specialist / Research Assistant

Aug . 2015–May 2016

Montana Anthropogenic Research Cooperative, Center for Integrated Research on the Environment, University of Montana – Missoula

Part-time, 20hr/ wk

Supervisor: Dr. Kelly Dixon (612) 247-6414

- **Cross-Cultural Communication & Collaboration**–Worked effectively with diverse groups to address communication challenges and solve problems, enhancing empathy and understanding in designing research and deliverables
- **Qualitative Data Collection** – Conducted field observation studies and interviews to gather valuable user insights on existing Air Force Tribal consultation capacities, roles, needs, complications, oversights, and related regulations prior to proposing deliverables
- **Tool & Resource Development**–Created user-friendly and practical digital tools and resources to support and streamline Tribal consultation by the Air Force



Education and Certifications

- **Google UX Design Certificate** / Coursera 2024-Present (ongoing)
- **Registered Professional Archaeologist, RPA 18097, 2020**
- **MA in Anthropology** / University of Montana 2018
4.0 GPA, thesis option, Lambda Alpha Honors Society for Anth.
- **BA in Biblical Studies** / Amridge University, AL 2014
Magna Cum Laude, 3.85 GPA

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Military Honors:

Air Force Achievement Medals (2x)

Like multiple Employee of the Month awards for exceptional projects

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (3x)

Like playing a strategic contribution to winning collaborative company-wide innovation accolades

Air Force Good Conduct Medal

Like a long-standing recognition of professional behavior and high performance

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Highlights involvement in challenging, high-stakes projects

Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Border)

Went above and beyond on particularly tough assignments

Air Force Longevity Service

Acknowledges continuous excellence and dedication over an extended career



Military Experience

Maintenance Management Production / Scheduling & Documentation (Production Scheduler)

Aug . 2007–May 2012

Active Duty United States Air Force

2R151,

Nellis AFB, Dover AFB, and veteran of an undisclosed location deployment

- **Coordinated meetings & briefings**—Managed stakeholder meetings and presentations, demonstrating strong organizational and communication skills
- **Tracked & reported progress:** Monitored and reported on project milestones and customer feedback, ensuring timely updates to stakeholders. Also, engaged in 5S for continuous improvement.
- **Updated & published schedules** — Adapted to changing priorities to manage and update project timeline's affecting the inventory schedule, ensuring alignment with latest customer needs
- **Audited records for accuracy**— Ensured data accuracy and integrity by auditing aircraft maintenance data and correcting errors, potential lives and recovering large unpaid invoices for flown missions
- **Customer service & troubleshooting** —Provided exceptional support and troubleshooting for customers and team members



Public Engagement & Teaching

- Book Reviews for Scholarly Journal—1
- Courses Taught—5 different types, a total of 17 classes delivered
- Invited Guest Lectures— 13
- Professional Reports—5+
- Professional Conference Presentations—4
- 2 of which resulted in professional society awards



Volunteering

- Dark Sky International Advocate & Nighthawk Member
- Texas Stream Team Water Quality Community Scientist
- Nurdle Patrol
- Montana Archaeological Site Steward
- local litter patrol
- Scholarly Journal Peer Reviewer (*Human Ecology*)
- Handpicked by NRCS Federal Preservation Officer to serve on Data Privacy Advisory Committee and the Tribal consultation committees, serving the federal agency nation-wide