

# Mark Floryan

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University of Virginia  
Department of Computer Science  
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## Education

**University of Massachusetts: Amherst, MA**  
Fall 2008 – Spring 2013  
M.S. / Ph.D. Computer Science

**University of Virginia: Charlottesville, VA**  
Fall 2004 – Spring 2008  
B.S. Computer Science

## Appointments

**Co-Director: Game Design Research Group** August 2014 – present  
University of Virginia; Charlottesville, VA  
<http://gamedesign.cs.virginia.edu>

**Lecturer; Computer Science** August 2013 – present  
University of Virginia; Charlottesville, VA

**HitPoint Studios, Inc.** March 2012 – August 2013  
Lead Game Developer

**Lab Instructor; Computer Science** August 2011 – May 2012  
Mount Holyoke College; South Hadley, MA

## Active Research Projects

**Gamification of Internet Interventions** April 2016 – present  
Game Design Research Group & Center for Behavioral Health Technology  
This project involves the gamification of two active online internet interventions. One is an insomnia program for adults, the other a skin cancer prevention program.

**Gamifying the Process of Energy Saving** August 2015 – present  
Game Design Research Group; University of Virginia  
This project involves building a mobile application that utilizes gamification techniques to motivate residents in Charlottesville, VA to save energy. This project is a partnership between our group and the City of Charlottesville in an attempt to win the \$5 million Georgetown Energy Prize.

**Dr. Doctor: A Knowledge Refinement Game** August 2012 – present  
University of Virginia / University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
This project involves the study of *knowledge refinement games*, which are developed as an attempt to abstract away the improvement of an expert model. The system stores a partially valid model, and the game is designed to allow players to actively improve parts of the model detected to be potentially inaccurate.

**Gamer Card: Gamification Platform for Education** August 2014 – present  
Game Design Research Group; University of Virginia  
Gamer Card is a platform for XP/gamification in a course setting. The system provides a domain-independent, out-of-box solution for teachers who wish to easily apply gamification to courses.

**Emergence: A Serious Game for Medical Diagnosis** May 2014 – present  
University of Virginia  
Emergence is an attempt to explore the effects of various game mechanics on a student's ability to acquire medical diagnosis skills as well as proper inquiry technique.

## Other Research Projects

**Bookmark: Critical Reading Game** August 2015 – present  
Game Design Research Group; University of Virginia

<b>Evolving Expert Knowledge Bases</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst / University of Virginia</i>	<i>August 2012 – Present</i>
<b>Rashi: Collaborative Tutoring in Ill-Defined Domains</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst / University of Virginia</i>	<i>January 2011 – Present</i>
<b>CIRCE: An Electronic Circuit Analysis Tutor</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</i>	<i>January 2011 – August 2013</i>
<b>Examining Educational Benefits of Intelligent Interactive 3D Games</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</i>	<i>January 2010 – present</i>
<b>4Mality: Intelligent Tutoring for Fourth Grade Standardized Math Tests</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</i>	<i>June 2010 – November 2010</i>
<b>Nancy's Pantry: User Interfaces for the Blind</b> <i>University of Virginia</i>	<i>May 2007 - May 2008</i>

### **Game Development Experience**

<b>Fablewood**</b> A fantasy-based, social, hidden object game <i>HitPoint Studios Inc.</i> ( <a href="https://apps.facebook.com/fablewood/">https://apps.facebook.com/fablewood/</a> )	<i>Release: November 2013</i>
<b>Disney Fairies: Hidden Treasures*</b> Story based adventure featuring Disney's <i>Tinker Bell</i> <i>HitPoint Studios Inc., Microsoft Game Studios, Disney Interactive Studios</i>	<i>Release: March 2013</i>
<b>Adera</b> Story / puzzle based adventure game <i>HitPoint Studios Inc., Microsoft Game Studios, Disney Interactive Studios</i>	<i>Release: October 2012</i>
<b>Seaside Hideaway**</b> A seaside town based, social, hidden object game <i>HitPoint Studios Inc.</i> ( <a href="https://apps.facebook.com/seasidehideaway/">https://apps.facebook.com/seasidehideaway/</a> )	<i>Release: May 2012</i>
<b>A Light in the Dark**</b> Hide and seek game utilizing facial recognition technology <i>Independent: Mount Holyoke College Global Game Jam</i>	<i>Release: January 2012</i>
<b>Fruit Simon*</b> A memory game utilizing physical motion based interaction <i>Independent: Mount Holyoke College Global Game Jam</i>	<i>Release: January 2012</i>
<b>Rashi Game**</b> A 3-D medical diagnosis and inquiry based game <i>University of Massachusetts Amherst; Center for Knowledge Communication</i>	<i>Release: October 2011</i>

\*\* Indicates lead role of given project

\* Indicates significant (non-lead) contribution to project

### **Publications**

**Mark Floryan**, Lee Ritterband. "A Gamification Model for Internet Interventions". *Journal of Medical Internet Research* (2017). (In Preparation)

*Nicholas Lytle\**, **Mark Floryan**, *David Amin\**. "Design Frameworks for Experiential Educational Games". *International Journal of Serious Games* (2017). (In Editing)

Toby Dragon, **Mark Floryan**, *Grayson Wilkins\**, *Thomas Sparks\**. "Efficiency vs. Immersion: Design Trade-offs for an Exploratory Learning Environment". *ITS Workshop on Exploratory Learning Environments*. Zagreb, Croatia (2016).

Mark Sherriff, **Mark Floryan**, David Wert\*. "Achievement Unlocked: Investigating Which Gamification Elements Motivate Students". 123<sup>rd</sup> Annual ASEE Conference and Exposition. New Orleans, LA (2015).

Nicholas Lytle\*, **Mark Floryan**. "A Design Framework for Experiential Educational Games". Proceedings of the Games and Learning Alliance (GALA) Conference. Rome, Italy (2015).

**Mark Floryan**, Toby Dragon, Nada Basit, Suellen Dragon, Beverly Park Woolf. "Who Needs Help? Automating Student Assessment within Exploratory Learning Environments". Proceedings of the 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education. Madrid, Spain (2015).

Enid K. Sichel, Beverly Park Woolf, **Mark Floryan**. "Web-based Personalized Laboratories for Engineering Students". Proceedings of the 2014 Zone 1 Conference of the American Society for Engineering Education. Bridgeport, CT (2014). **\*Nominated for Best Paper Award**

Enid K. Sichel, Beverly Park Woolf, **Mark Floryan**. "Personalized Intelligent Software Responses for Engineering Students". Proceedings of the 2014 IEEE-USA Annual Meeting and Innovations in Technology Conference. Providence, RI (2014).

Beverly Park Woolf, Winslow Burleson, Bradley Henry, **Mark Floryan**, Avron Barr. "White House Pull Mechanisms for Education". United States Office of Science and Technology Policy; Request for Information: Advancing Learning Technology through Pull Mechanisms. (2014).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "Improving the Efficiency of Automatic Knowledge Generation through Games and Simulations". Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education. Memphis, TN (2013).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "Authoring Expert Knowledge Bases for Intelligent Tutors through Crowdsourcing". Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education. Memphis, TN (2013). **\*Best Poster Award Winner**

**Mark Floryan**. "Evolving Expert Knowledge Bases: Applications of Crowdsourcing and Serious Gaming to Advance Knowledge Development for Intelligent Tutoring Systems". Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Massachusetts, Amherst (2013).

**Mark Floryan**, Toby Dragon, Beverly Woolf. "When Less is More: Focused Pruning of Knowledge Bases to Improve Recognition of Student Conversation". Proceedings of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems. Chania, Crete (2012).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "Students that Benefit from Educational 3D Games". Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies. Athens, GA (2011).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "Optimizing the Performance of Educational Web Services". Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies. Athens, GA (2011).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "Rashi Game: Towards an Effective Educational 3D Gaming Experience". Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Learning Technologies. Athens, GA (2011).

Toby Dragon, **Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf, Tom Murray. "Recognizing Dialogue Content in Student Collaborative Conversation". Proceedings of the International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems. Pittsburgh, PA (2010).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf, Toby Dragon, Tom Murray. "Interactive Event: Collaboration and Content Recognition Features in an Inquiry Tutor". Proceedings of the International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems. Pittsburgh, PA (2010).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf, Rick Adrion. "Web Services and Serious Games: The Applications of Web Based Software Engineering Techniques for the Purpose of Developing Game Based Intelligent Tutoring Systems." (2010).

**Mark Floryan**, Beverly Woolf. "A Literature Review of the Field of Serious Games." (2009).

**Mark Floryan**. "Consolidating and Deriving HCI Techniques for Non-Visual User Interfaces". Honors Thesis. University of Virginia, University Press (2008).

\* Indicates undergraduate student author

### Invited Talks

**Mark Floryan** “Leveraging Computing to Provide Increased Efficacy for Educational Interventions” University of Virginia; Center for Behavioral Health Technology Seminar. April 15, 2016.

**Mark Floryan** “Video games and their applications to both teaching and learning.” University of Virginia; Student Game Developers Invited Talk. October 10, 2013.

**Mark Floryan** “Automatic construction of knowledge bases from student data, and how gaming can affect this process”. McGill University. July 30, 2013.

**Mark Floryan** “How can video games help humans and computers learn from one another?” Mount Holyoke College. April 17, 2013.

**Mark Floryan** “Life as a graduate student: What to expect.” Mount Holyoke College. October 11, 2011.

### Grant Proposals

**Artificial Instructional Designers:  
Towards Automation of the Course Development Lifecycle** *December 2015*  
Mark Floryan, Beverly Park Woolf, Toby Dragon  
National Science Foundation EXP Cyberlearning  
Amount: \$550,000  
Status: *Rejected*

**Time Traveler: Learning Science and Engineering through Educational Games** *February 2011*  
Beverly Park Woolf, Alan Lukas, Mark Floryan  
National Science Foundation STTR Proposal  
Amount: \$150,000  
Status: *Rejected*

**Improving Educational Fluency by Expanding Access to Automatic Reading Technologies** *October 2013*  
Mark Floryan, Maryam Ghariban, Hollis Cate, Vignesh Kuppusamy  
Hereford Scholars Independent Project Grants  
Amount: \$2000  
Status: *Awarded*

### Teaching

**University of Virginia** *August 2013 – Present*

- CS 4730: Computer Game Design
- CS 4710: Artificial Intelligence
- CS 4102: Algorithms
- CS 3205: HCI in Software Development
- CS 2190: Computer Science Seminar
- CS 2150: Program and Data Representation
- CS 2501: Introduction to Game Design
- CS 1501: Neural Networks in Application *\*Student Taught Class*
- CS 1501: Cracking the Coding Interview *\*Student Taught Class*

**Mount Holyoke College** *August 2011 – May 2012*

- CS 101: Introduction to Computer Science
- CS 201: Introduction to Software Engineering

**University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Teaching Assistant)** *August 2008 – December 2010*

- CS 121: Introduction to Solving Problems with Computers
- Java Enrichment Laboratory (Founder)

**University of Virginia (Teaching Assistant)** *January 2006 – December 2007*

- CS 202: *Discrete Mathematics*
- CS 216: *Data Structures*

## Advising

<b>Studying Competitive Features in a Gamified College Course</b> Senior Thesis Project Joseph Baik; University of Virginia	<i>August 2016 – May 2017</i>
<b>Use of Virtual Reality for History Education</b> Senior Thesis Project Anthony Uitz; University of Virginia	<i>August 2016 – May 2017</i>
<b>Gamifying an Insomnia Intervention for Older Adults</b> Senior Thesis Project Cindy Park, Alyssa Lambert; University of Virginia	<i>August 2016 – May 2017</i>
<b>Developing Algorithms for Graph Combinations with Noisy Data</b> Senior Thesis Project Ryan Duffin; University of Virginia	<i>August 2015 – May 2016</i>
<b>Prediction Algorithms for Forecasting NCAA Tournament Games</b> Independent Study Project Max Reinsel; University of Virginia	<i>August 2015 – May 2016</i>
<b>Leveraging Social Game Mechanics to Enhance Mathematics Literacy</b> Senior Thesis Project Courtney Maimon, Kevin Whelan; University of Virginia	<i>August 2014 – May 2015</i>
<b>The Dark Side of HCI; Analyzing Optimal Designs of Pirate Sites</b> Distinguished Majors Program; Capstone Project Kevin Liu; University of Virginia	<i>August 2014 – May 2015</i>
<b>Machine Learning Algorithms for Categorizing User BAC Levels</b> Senior Thesis Project Kyle Thornburgh, Praneeth Nadipalli, Sumit Narain; University of Virginia	<i>August 2014 – May 2015</i>
<b>Efficient Generation of a Medical Knowledge Base</b> Senior Thesis Project Samuel Ogbe; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>Decision Tree Modeling for ITS from Teacher Provided Data</b> Senior Thesis Project Xinzhuo Dong; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>Improved Designs for Knowledge Refinement Games</b> Senior Thesis Project Tim Hammer; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>Designing Games to Teach Domain Knowledge to Machines</b> Senior Thesis Project Jared Baum; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>The Addition of Haptic Feedback to LEAP Motion to Advance Desktop Interactions</b> Independent Research Project Andy Barron, Justin Dao, Elizabeth Orrico, Alexander Kuck; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>Automatic Grading Framework for Tutors in Ill-Defined Domains</b> Independent Research Project Vishesh Choudhry; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>CollegiateLoL: A Web-Based Collegiate E-Sports Management System</b> Independent Project Garet Voit; University of Virginia	<i>August 2013 – May 2014</i>
<b>Circe: Introductory Circuit Analysis Tutor</b> Spiros Baltasvias; University of Massachusetts, Amherst	<i>August 2012 – May 2013</i>

### Professional Affiliations

<b>Member: Serious Games Society (SGS)</b>	<i>March 2016 – Present</i>
<b>Member: Special Interest Group, Computer Science Education (SIGCSE)</b>	<i>February 2014 – Present</i>
<b>Member of the International Artificial Intelligence in Education Society</b>	<i>June 2013 – Present</i>

### Service

<b>ACM Student Chapter Faculty Advisor</b> <i>University of Virginia</i>	<i>August 2016 - Present</i>
<b>Program Committee: 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS)</b> <i>Zagreb, Croatia</i>	<i>July 2016</i>
<b>Program Committee:</b> <b>6<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Intelligent Support for Exploratory Learning Environments</b> <i>Madrid, Spain</i>	<i>July 2015</i>
<b>ACM Inter-Collegiate Programming Contest</b> <i>Co-Coach; University of Virginia</i>	<i>August 2014 – Present</i>
<b>ACM Inter-Collegiate Programming Contest World Finals</b> <i>On-Site Coach; University of Virginia</i> <i>Contest held at Ural Federal University; Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation</i>	<i>June 2014</i>
<b>Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC)</b> <i>University of Virginia; School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS)</i>	<i>August 2014 – Present</i>
<b>Program Committee: 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education (AIED)</b> <i>Madrid, Spain</i>	<i>July 2015</i>
<b>Program Committee: 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS)</b> <i>University of Hawaii at Manoa; Honolulu, HI</i>	<i>July 2014</i>
<b>Program Committee: 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education (AIED)</b> <i>University of Memphis; Memphis, TN</i>	<i>July 2013</i>
<b>Program Committee: Workshop on Intelligent Support for Exploratory Learning Environments</b> <i>Chania, Crete; Greece</i>	<i>July 2012</i>
<b>Program Committee: 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS)</b> <i>Chania, Crete; Greece</i>	<i>July 2012</i>
<b>Volunteer: 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS)</b> <i>Carnegie Mellon University; Pittsburgh, PA</i>	<i>June 2010</i>
<b>New Student Committee; Social Committee; Message Meister</b> <i>University of Massachusetts, Amherst</i>	<i>2008 - 2010</i>

### Awards

<b>ACM Professor of the Year</b> <i>University of Virginia</i>	<i>2013 - 2014</i>
<b>Best Paper Award (Nominated)</b> <i>Zone 1 Conference of the American Society for Engineering Education. Bridgeport, CT</i>	<i>May 2014</i>
<b>Best Poster Award</b> <i>16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education. Memphis, TN</i>	<i>July 2013</i>