Leeza Pesenson

About

My insatiable curiosity about how people interact with information, the environment, and each other keeps me questioning assumptions and finding new ways of looking at things. As a trainer of Nonviolent Communication in my spare time, I bring impeccable soft skills in addition to my scientific rigor.

Experience

UX Design Researcher

U.S. Bank, San Francisco, CA (2016–Mar 2024)

User Researcher (Contract)

Wells Fargo, San Francisco, CA (2015–2016)

Design Researcher (Contract) *Microsoft, San Francisco, CA* (2014–2015)

UX Researcher (Contract)

Trizic.com, San Francisco, CA (Jun–Sep 2014)

Education

M.S. Cognitive Science

Università degli Studi di Trento, Italy (2013) Focus: Language and Multi-modal Interaction Final Score: 110/110, Merit Prize Winner

B.A. Cognitive Science

University of California, Berkeley (2009)

Patents

Inferring cues for use with digital assistant. Microsoft. Patent US14/792,268

- Plan and organize user research for the consumer-facing app
- •Incorporate research into an agile, cross-functional team
- Initiate and run weekly team meetings to improve processes
- Inform the design of ATM components and desktop interfaces
- Simplify employee and customer interactions across offerings
- •Create common user experiences across a suite of apps and tools
- Maximize personalization through qualitative user research
- Streamline quantitative data collection and analysis methods
- Develop and localize interaction sequences in 14 countries
- Drive UXR strategy for a B2B2C SAAS startup
- Inform web app and site redesign through rapid iterative tests
- Generate mock-ups and interaction specifications

Knowledge

Skills

Usability Tests, Concept Validation, Surveys, Diary Studies, Field Studies, Heuristic Evaluation, Tree Tests, Competitive Analysis, Lab & Remote & Guerrilla Tests, Wizard-of-Oz Tests, Design with Children, Participatory Design, Physical Devices

Tools

UserZoom.com, UserTesting.com, Site Catalyst, NVIVO, Morae, Qualtrics, Optimal Sort, Amazon mTurk, Keynote, Balsamiq, Attensity, O ce, Photoshop

Languages

English, Italian, Russian