Rodrigo Calvo

954-683-2200 | rodrigo.calvo@ufl.edu | Gainesville, FL | linkedin.com/in/calvor

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-Computer Interaction, Human-Agent Interaction, Affective Computing, Physiological Computing, Augmented and Mixed Reality.

EDUCATION

PhD in Human-Centered Computing, University of Florida, *Gainesville, FL.*   *Expected Graduation: Jul 2026*
- Advisor: Dr. Jaime Ruiz

M.S. in Computer Science, University of Florida, *Gainesville, FL*   *May 2024*

B.S. in Computer Science, Utah State University, *Logan, UT*   *Dec 2020*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, University of Florida | Gainesville, FL   Aug 2021 – Present

My doctoral dissertation in the RuizLab investigates user perceptions of companion virtual agents, using a human-centered approach to study trust and appropriateness. Beyond my dissertation, I have conducted research projects in other areas of HCI, including work on AR-based task guidance systems and the use of physiological signals to assess human performance.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Utah State University | Logan, UT   Jan 2020 – Jul 2020

Contributed to the development and security of an exam-taking platform. My work involved enhancing the exam-taking website with new administrative functionalities and implementing security measures on an Apache server.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

COMPUTER ORGANIZATION TEACHING ASSISTANT, University of Florida | Gainesville, FL   Aug 2025 – Present

Supported CDA 3101 Intro to Computer Organization by leading weekly discussion sections and holding office hours to clarify course concepts. Assisted with grading assignments and exams and provided feedback to strengthen student understanding of computer architecture topics.

COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHING ASSISTANT, Utah State University | Logan, UT   Jan 2019 – Dec 2019

Assisted with introductory computer science courses. Provided support to over 100 students through personalized assistance with programming concepts and managed course gradebooks to ensure accurate and timely feedback.

RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTOR, Utah State University | Logan, UT   Jan 2019 – Dec 2019

Instructor for a university-level beginner's racquetball course. Developed lesson plans, delivered instruction on rules and techniques, and managed student grading and feedback.

SPANISH TEACHING ASSISTANT, Utah State University | Logan, UT   Aug 2018 – Dec 2018

Assisted with introductory Spanish language courses. Delivered lessons on grammar and vocabulary and provided in-class guidance to enhance student comprehension and conversational skills.

TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS

UF CTE Great Teaching for New Faculty Certificate   2025

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL) Associate   2025

------------------------------ P U B L I C A T I O N S ------------------------------

Journal Articles

[1]   Wang, H., Chen, Y., Bista, D., **Calvo, R.,** Regmi, N., Zhang, Z., Neal, T., Ruiz, J., & Anthony, L. (2025). 'Over Time Everyone's Gonna Be Open To It': User Attitudes Towards Security and Privacy in Continuous Authentication for Smart Homes. IEEE Access. (**Accepted**)

Refereed Conference Papers

[1]   **Calvo, R.,** Wang, H., Barquero, A., Zhang, X., Venkatakrishnan, R., Ruiz, J. (2025). Exploring Interactions with Companion Virtual Agents. In proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human-Agent Interaction (HAI'25) (**Accepted**)

[2]   Delgado, D. A., Bowers, C. J., **Calvo, R. L.,** & Ruiz, J. (2025). Evaluating Uni-Directional vs. Bi-Directional Shared-Gaze Visualizations for Collocated Augmented Reality Collaboration. In proceedings of the IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality (ISMAR '25) (**Accepted**)

[3]   **Calvo, R.,** Wang, H., Barquero, A., & Ruiz, J. (2025). *Exploring Users' Perceptions on Position, Gaze Direction, and Gender of Virtual Agents in Augmented Reality.* In *Proceedings of Graphics Interface 2025.* (**Accepted**).

[4]   Barquero, A.*, **Calvo, R.L.***, Delgado, D.A.*, Wang, I., Anthony, L. and Ruiz, J., 2024, July. Understanding User Needs for Task Guidance Systems Through the Lens of Cooking. In Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Designing Interactive Systems Conference (pp. 2006-2018). (***Equal Contribution**)

[5]   Wang, I., **Calvo, R**., Wang, H. and Ruiz, J., 2023, September. Stop Copying Me: Evaluating nonverbal mimicry in embodied motivational agents. In *Proceedings of the 23rd ACM International Conference on Intelligent Virtual Agents* (pp. 1-4).

Manuscripts Under Review

[1]   Pérez, M. F., Barquero, A., **Calvo, R.,** Moore, D., Zolotas, M., Grimaldi, N., Liu, Y., Patterson, E., Bista, D., Regmi, N., Venkatakrishnan, R., Brown, K., Wozniak, D., Wang, I., Tompkins, A., Fairbanks, J., Anthony, L., Padir, T., Zahabi, M., Kaber, D., & Ruiz, J. (2025). Intelligent AR Task Guidance System with Cognitive Load-Adaptive Capabilities: Design and User Study. Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems.

[2]   **Calvo, R.,** Bista, D., Napoli, N., Anthony, L., & Ruiz, J. (2025). *Predicting User Interruptibility in Mixed Reality: Utilizing Physiological Signals for Managing Interruptions.* Submitted to the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI'26).

[3]   **Calvo, R.,** Bowers, C., Barquero, A., & Ruiz, J. (2025). *Impact of Companion's Agent Self-Disclosure Levels on User Perception.* Submitted to the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing (CHI'26).

------------------------------ P R E S E N T A T I O N S ------------------------------

Conference Presentations

How Hand Constraints Influence User-Defined Gestures in Mixed Reality, **Paper Presentation**, Graphics Interface (GI '25), Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, May 2025.

Exploring Users' Perceptions on Position, Gaze Direction, and Gender of Virtual Agents in Augmented Reality, **Paper Presentation**, Graphics Interface (GI '25), Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, May 2025.

Understanding User Needs for Task Guidance Systems Through the Lens of Cooking, **Paper Presentation**, Designing Interactive Systems (DIS '24), Copenhagen, Denmark, July 2024.

Invited Talks & Seminars

Building Appropriate, Trustworthy, and Engaging Virtual Agents: Understanding Social Interaction Dynamics Through a Human-Centered Lens, Invited Talk, Human-Centered Data Science Seminar Series, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, April 2025.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewing

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing   2023

Community Engagement

Volunteer Instructor, Bolivia — Taught core subjects and provided academic mentorship to students in low-income schools.

Volunteer, Bolivian Nursing Homes — Provided daily assistance and companionship to support the well-being of elderly residents.

Student Activity Coordinator — Led and organized extracurricular activities for student groups to foster teamwork and leadership skills.

HONORS & AWARDS

Latin American & Caribbean (LAC) Graduate Scholarship   2025
Board of Education Fellowship   2021