

Joshua Meisenbacher

UX Researcher & Systems Designer

(214) 620-1831 · joshua.meisenbacher@gmail.com · Plano, TX

SUMMARY

Research-driven UX researcher and systems designer transitioning from cognitive neuroscience into UX through behavior-focused research and adaptive systems design. Focused on designing user-centered systems that respond to real user behavior, especially in high-friction or high-cognitive-load environments. Experienced translating behavioral research, qualitative research, and usability insights into practical, testable design decisions through iterative design and prototyping.

CORE COMPETENCIES

UX Research: Study design, usability testing, qualitative research, behavioral analysis

Data & Prototyping: Figma, behavioral logging, iterative prototyping, user flows

Systems Thinking: Problem framing, behavior-driven design, adaptive systems, interaction design

Domain Knowledge: Cognitive load, negative transfer, healthcare UX, accessibility, productivity

UX PROJECTS

Time Anchor — Lead Designer & Researcher

Aug 2025 - Present

- Designed an adaptive execution support system focused on start, transition, and overwhelm moments rather than planning
- Built real-time logic that modifies adaptive support cues and interaction flows based on observed behavior (e.g., missed starts, ignored prompts)
- Framed for enterprise use to improve follow-through and reduce cognitive overload without requiring users to self-identify as neurodivergent

NICU Parent Support App — Lead Designer & Researcher

Aug 2025 - Present

- Designed a communication and coordination system for parents navigating a high-stress healthcare environment
- Reduced cognitive burden through improved information flow, stakeholder and user research, and support coordination for both families and clinical staff

Assassin's Creed Origins — Study Designer & Researcher

Jan 2026 - May 2026

- Designed a study identifying how legacy input habits interfered with learning a new control system
- Developed adaptive onboarding prompts triggered at the point of error detection to reduce friction without flattening the learning curve
- Applied cognitive science theory (negative transfer) to a real onboarding challenge

SizeCompare — Lead Researcher & Designer

Jan 2026 – May 2026

- Designed a comparative study testing whether spatial visualization improves sizing confidence over standard 2D charts
- Addressed a major e-commerce pain point: uncertainty-driven low purchase confidence and return rates

EDUCATION

M.S. Applied Cognition and Neuroscience – University of Texas at Dallas May 2026

B.S. Psychology, Minor in Neuroscience – Texas Woman's University May 2023

Summa Cum Laude · TWU Psychology Senior Research Award · Richard Nichols Outstanding Student Leader Award · Chancellor's List

Google UX Design Certificate Coursera

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Aging Well Lab — Research Assistant Aug 2025 - Present

Dr. Kendra Seaman, Ph.D. · University of Texas at Dallas

- Conduct secondary quantitative analysis on decision-making and cognition in older adults
- Synthesized research findings to support manuscript development

TWU Family Project — Undergraduate Research Assistant Jan 2022 - May 2023

Dr. Lisa Rosen, Ph.D. · Texas Woman's University

- Customized and administered Cyberball simulations to study responses to social exclusion
- Conducted interviews with children and parents to gather qualitative behavioral data and user insights
- Co-authored poster: "Fathers' Use of Emotional Support During Difficult Peer Experiences" — SWPA 2023

Neuroscience Lab — Undergraduate Research Assistant May 2022 - Aug 2022

Dr. Elisa Na, Ph.D. · Texas Woman's University

- Conducted neuronal microscopy on mouse brain tissue to examine the effects of stress on traumatic brain injury

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Restaurant Manager / Bartender 13 years (5 in management)

- Led teams in high-volume environments requiring real-time decision-making, task prioritization, and adaptive communication under time pressure.

Principal — Fastrackids International Cambodia June 2016 – June 2017

- Adapted an American education program to fit Cambodian students' developmental and cultural needs
- Developed assessment strategies and managed classroom operations

Private Tutor Jan 2021 – June 2022

- Conducted individualized learning assessments and adapted teaching strategies to students' cognitive and emotional needs
- Tracked progress through structured evaluation and feedback

HONORS & LEADERSHIP

Omicron Delta Kappa — President (2022–2023) · Psi Chi · Phi Theta Kappa · Alpha Sigma Lambda · Touchstone Honors Program Graduate

The Neural Network — Founding Treasurer (2022) · Celia Jamison Sankey Endowed Scholarship (2022/2023)