

# GOUTHAM YEGAPPAN

FOUNDER OF RE-EDUCATED, DATA SCIENTIST & EDUCATOR

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

My work integrates data science, philosophy, and public policy to examine how structures of learning influence motivation, curiosity, and human development. With six years of experience as a data scientist, I bring analytical rigor to educational research. I host Re-Educated, a global podcast featuring over 180 scholars, and lead nation-wide communities fostering cross-disciplinary dialogue. I have presented my findings and conducted live interviews with speakers and guests at conferences and educational initiatives in Italy, India, Switzerland, and the United States. I am also the author of *Beyond Small Talk*, a book that offers a framework for educators to foster more meaningful relationships in the classroom. I have also designed a mathematics and data science curriculum, drawing on a decade of mentorship and teaching experience across diverse educational contexts.

## EDUCATION

**Georgetown University | M.S., Data Science for Public Policy | Washington, D.C** **2021 – 2023**

Policy Process, Applied Statistics, Advanced Modeling Techniques, Data Science for Public Policy, Databases, Data Ethics, Communication for Data Science, Social Network Analysis, Intermediate Microeconomics

**UC San Diego | B.S., Mathematics – Computer Science | La Jolla, California** **2016 – 2020**

Minor: Philosophy

Systems Programming, Ethical Theory, Differential Equations, Epistemology, Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, Machine Learning, Technology and Human Values, Nature of Reality, Combinatorics, Moral Psychology

## RESEARCH & EDUCATION PROJECTS

**Founder | Re-Educated** **2023 – Present**

- Host a global education podcast with over 200 hours of recorded conversations featuring scholars from 100+ universities across 30 countries, examining the philosophy, policy, and implementation of education. Educators and listeners across the nation continue the dialogue through correspondence, sharing reflections on how the show has influenced their own teaching and learning practices.
- Lead nationwide communities, facilitating philosophical dialogue, collaborative writing, and reflective retreats that bring together teachers, researchers, and policymakers around shared educational inquiry.
- Invited to interview and present my findings on global educational practices at international conferences in Switzerland, Italy, India, and the United States, including Cortona Week, the Future of Educational Technology and the National CSR Conference.
- Developed a research-oriented curriculum guiding over 50 students across 10 states in designing and conducting independent inquiry projects that connect theory and practice.
  - ex: Analyzing gaps in the English lexicon, designing a more efficient keyboard layout through data-driven linguistic analysis, and developing algorithms to solve the game of Clue.

**Researcher | ETH Zurich | Co-PI: Dr. Anaïs Sägger & Dr. Naveen Shamsudhin (in progress)** **2025 – Present**

- Conducting qualitative interviews with educators, community organizers, and researchers to investigate how communities experience the affective, epistemic, and practical dimensions of unlearning existing structures imposed by dominant paradigms.
- Employing thematic theory analysis informed by affect theory to examine how relations with the dynamics of unlearning and relearning shape pathways of systemic change.

**Data Scientist | Stockholm University | PI: Dr. Kristy Fägersten (in progress)** **2023 – Present**

- Constructed a publicly available corpus of song lyrics spanning six decades to support research and teaching in linguistics, enabling cross-temporal analysis of how language and cultural expression evolve through music.
- Developed an interactive platform that allows students and researchers to learn linguistic analysis through music, integrating natural language processing methods to make complex concepts in semantics and syntax more accessible.

**Policy Analyst | Georgetown University | Center on Education and the Workforce (published)** **2021 – 2023**

- Led the data forecasting for *Projections of Jobs and Education through 2031*, integrating IPEDS, U.S. Census, and Bureau of Labor Statistics data covering 170 million projected jobs, leading model updates to account for post-COVID labor market shifts.
- Co-authored an [education research report](#), designing data visualizations to communicate empirical findings and inform policy decisions among government stakeholders.

## Machine Learning Scientist | UC San Diego | PI: Dr. Ery Arias-Castro

2020

- Applied fine-grained spatial modeling to analyze decision-making patterns in professional athletes, leading a class session on applying machine learning to understand random-seeming phenomena in decision-making.

## Research Assistant | UC San Diego | Neural Engineering and Translation Labs | PI: Dr. Jyoti Mishra

2019 – 2020

- Conducted EEG data analysis using Fourier transform techniques to examine neural oscillatory patterns underlying learning in children with and without ADHD, contributing to a deeper understanding of the neural foundations of attention and cognition.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### In-Field Researcher | Humane Warriors

2023 – 2024

- Taught and facilitated workshops on critical thinking and reflective learning in Himalayan schools, engaging students and teachers in dialogic and inquiry-based pedagogy.
- Developed a data tool for Indigenous communities in southern India to track health outcomes and educational attainment, supporting evidence-based program evaluation and community advocacy.
- Observed and studied alternative pedagogical models at Krishnamurti-inspired schools, examining how contemplative and non-competitive learning environments shape motivation and self-understanding.
- Designed a game-based English curriculum for rural schools in Tamil Nadu, aligning language learning with cultural play.

### Curriculum Expert & Educator | Breakout Mentors

2020 – 2022

- Taught machine learning and data science concepts to high school students through inquiry-based projects that emphasized problem solving and conceptual understanding.
- Designed a mentor training curriculum with structured activities, Japanese puzzles, and word games aligned to specific learning outcomes, using these tools to strengthen mentors' approaches to teaching logical reasoning and problem solving.

### People Analytics Intern | Intuitive Surgical

2019

- Spearheaded qualitative research on employee experience, analyzing 15,000 employee reports, uncovering 12 key actionable criteria for enhancing workplace satisfaction, culminating in an annual comprehensive report for business leadership.
- Developed SQL stored procedures for robust security measures, broadening the scope of data accessible to business leaders, thereby strengthening organizational decision-making processes.

## AUTHORSHIP

### Beyond Small Talk: A Modern Framework for Understanding Someone Deeply ([published](#))

2025

- A pedagogical framework that integrates philosophical inquiry and developmental psychology to help educators cultivate deeper relational understanding with students.
- Building on Erik Erikson's eight stages of psychosocial development, the work maps each stage of life to the philosophical questions and themes that define it.
- Proposes a new philosophical model of understanding that extends Martin Buber's I–Thou framework, reinterpreting what it means to encounter, know, and accompany another person in educational and developmental contexts.

### The Keyboard: Optimizing Human-Computer Interaction Through Linguistic Analysis ([published](#))

2024

- Developed a data-driven framework for optimizing keyboard layouts using genetic algorithms, Fitts's Law, and corpus linguistics. Analyzed billions of characters from the COCA and FineWeb datasets to model ergonomic efficiency.

### The Dictionary: Quantitative Analysis of Language and Meaning ([published](#))

2023

- Conducted a large-scale linguistic and statistical study of English dictionaries, applying corpus linguistics, network theory, and Zipf's Law to examine how language structure, frequency, and meaning evolve.

### The Schools We Haven't Built Yet (in progress)

2025 – Present

- Synthesizes conversations from nearly 200 podcast episodes into nine philosophical themes, including economic, ideological, pedagogical, technological, political, aesthetic, psychological, epistemological, and ethical, to develop an analysis of what has been effective and what can be improved, highlighting the complexity of education reform.

## CONFERENCES

### Kaleido | Hasliberg, Switzerland

2024

- Presented a session on difficult conversations drawing on standpoint theory to examine how educators can create intellectual spaces that hold multiple, and sometimes conflicting, truths.

### Instituto Nueva Escuela Montessori Training | San Juan, Puerto Rico

2024

- Shadowed teacher training sessions and interviewed the director to document the organization's philosophy of democratizing access to child-centered learning and the practice of adapting Montessori education to urban public schools.

#### **Future of Educational Technology | New Orleans, Louisiana** 2023

- Conducted live-interviews on emerging technologies in education and synthesized insights on how schools can ethically address AI in college admissions, contributing findings to a policy brief shared with Georgetown University.

#### **Unfinished Live | New York City, New York** 2022

- Documented insights from the conference founder Frank McCourt on the future of civic education.

#### **Cortona Week | Sienna, Italy** 2022

- Interviewed international scholars on consciousness, learning, and the mind, and presented a talk on the central philosophical dilemmas in contemporary education.

## **GRANTS & AWARDS**

#### **Grant Recipient, Climate Innovation Ideathon** 2022

- Awarded funding at Georgetown University's Climate Innovation Ideathon for designing an educational gamified tool that integrates behavioral science, design, and pedagogy to help users track and reduce their carbon footprint.

#### **Grant Recipient, Fredrico Faggin Scholarship** 2023

- Received a travel grant to attend Cortona Week (Siena, Italy) as an emerging researcher, supporting participation in interdisciplinary dialogues on consciousness, learning, and education.

#### **McCourt Research Development** 2023

- Awarded funding to attend and cover the Future of Educational Technology Conference.

#### **Finalist, Georgetown University Research Showcase** 2023

- Selected as one of the finalists and received a reward to continue developing *Re-Educated*, presenting my related educational research to the McCourt School of Public Policy.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Community Project | Forest Park Elementary | Fremont, California** 2024

- Designed and painted a large-scale mural at my elementary school in collaboration with students and teachers, fostering belonging and co-creation through participatory art.

#### **Policy Analyst | Dartmouth University | Dr. Rebecca Johnson | Hanover, New Hampshire** 2021

- Built and implemented an NLTK-based structural topic model for Dr. Rebecca Johnson's research on disability-related education funding, developing the analytical framework before departing for graduate study.

#### **Alumni Outreach | UC San Diego | La Jolla, CA** 2017-2019

- Called alumni spanning six decades to learn about their educational experiences and strengthen engagement, helping raise over \$20,000 in donations for university programs.

#### **Teacher | EDMO | Palo Alto, CA** 2017

- Taught STEM and creative learning modules to K-8 students performing below grade level, using inquiry-based and hands-on pedagogy, and reported learning progress and instructional findings to the program director.

## **INTERVIEWS**

Through long-form conversations, the series explores philosophical questions about education. Supported by patrons, the project continues to grow as an independent, listener-funded platform dedicated to accessible conversations on the future of education.

- Jonathan Zimmerman - Professor of the History of Education at the University of Pennsylvania (season 12)
- Ebony Bridwell-Mitchell - Professor in Education at Harvard University (season 12)
- Sherri Irvin - Presidential Research Professor of Women's & Gender Studies at the University of Oklahoma (season 10)
- James Shelley - Vice President of American Society for Aesthetics (season 9)
- Karenleigh Overmann - Director of Center for Cognitive Archeology at University of Colorado (season 8)
- David Newhouse - Chair of the Chanie Wenjack School for Indigenous Studies (season 6)
- Ana María García Blanco - Founder of Instituto Nueva Escuela (season 5)
- Ricardo Nazario y Colón - Senior Vice Chancellor DEI at SUNY (season 4)
- Maria Cancian - Dean of McCourt School of Public Policy (season 4)
- Mary Evans - Emiritus Professor of Women's Study at University of Kent (season 3)
- Brianne Bilsky - Dean of Berkeley College at Yale (season 2)
- Anthony Carnevale - Director of the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce (season 2)
- William Gormley - Co-Director of the Center for Research on Children (season 1)
- Vera Michalchik - Director at Effective Philanthropy Learning Initiative (season 1)