

Alexander Nolte

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Research interest

My research interest is on understanding how information technology can be leveraged to support the collaboration of people in organizational and volunteer contexts. I aim at designing and evaluating socio-technical approaches that sparkle creativity, foster innovation and improve collaboration. I believe in rigorous, interdisciplinary research on topics that are relevant to individuals and organizations. To that end my research extends to three main intertwined areas:

Computer supported cooperative work: Supporting the collaborative design of complex socio-technical systems is at the core of my research interest. I aim at designing and evaluating approaches that combine scaffolding mechanisms, meta-design, heuristics, re-use scenarios and analytics to facilitate and guide the design, implementation and evaluation of complex socio-technical systems over longer periods of time in mixed collocated and distributed settings.

Human computer interaction: Design mainly takes place in co-located workshops. In order to support those workshops, I aim at creating immersive spaces in which participants and facilitators can freely collaborate in different constellations and on different aspects of design.

Information systems: Socio-technical design often takes place in an organizational context. Arriving at concepts that support organizations to stay competitive is paramount. To this end the developed approaches have to intertwine both organizational and individual competences to create a climate that breeds innovative ideas and embraces change by implementing them.

Teaching philosophy

I perceive learning as a process during which individuals construct knowledge through their experiences and their interaction with other learners within social contexts. Teaching thus needs to be treated as a facilitation process that should create learning opportunities. In my courses, I do not solely focus on teaching facts. I rather actively engage students into discussions to foster critical thinking and creativity. If possible, I try to conduct courses in a project-oriented way where students learn to apply techniques that they are taught hands on in a practical context. In the end, the goal is not for the students to be able to replicate facts. It is rather to be able to understand and apply techniques in a real world setting.

Education

2009 – 2014 University of Duisburg-Essen
Dr. rer. nat. (PhD in Information Systems)
Thesis: Flexibilisierung kollaborativer Prozessmodellierung durch den Einsatz webbasierter Modellierungswerkzeuge (German)
The thesis is about a socio-technical approach to allow stakeholders to continuously participate in business process analysis and design. The approach intertwines co-located workshops with asynchronous annotation phases.

1999 – 2008 Technical University Dortmund
Dipl.-Inform. (MSc equivalent in Computer Science)
Thesis: Konzept und Prototyp eines Usability orientierten webbasierten Editors für semi-strukturierte Modellierung (German)
The thesis is about the development and evaluation of one of the first, purely web-based process modeling editors. The evaluation focused on usability aspects of transferring desktop-into web applications.

Work experience

2017 – present	Research associate	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Researcher in a project funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation on understanding and supporting Hackathons in various contexts	
2017 – present	Postdoctoral fellow	University of Pittsburgh, USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development and evaluation of approaches to support sustained collaboration over time in mixed collocated and distributed settings (supported by a funding grant DFG (German federal funding agency))	
2017	Adjunct faculty	University of Pittsburgh, USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teaching a course on Information Systems Development (Advanced JAVA course)	
2016 – 2017	Visiting research fellow	University of Pittsburgh, USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development and evaluation of approaches to support sustained collaboration over time in mixed collocated and distributed settings• Co-authoring research proposals for DFG (German federal funding agency) and local funding bodies in Pittsburgh. <p>Successful proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Supporting sustained collaboration over time in hybrid collocated and online settings</i> (Research fellowship, DFG, 103.249,80 €)• <i>We are strong! Leveraging Information Technology to Empower Marginalized Communities</i> (Joint research project, University of Pittsburgh, 28.000,00 \$)	
2016 – 2017	Temporary research programmer	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Front-end development for the LASAD project (Java EE and GWT)	
2016 – 2017	Online tutor	EURO-FH University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg, Germany
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tutor for "Information Management" and "Business Engineering"	
2014 – 2016	Postdoctoral research fellow	Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior researcher in the German funded project 4C4Learn on intertwining process and competence management approaches to support organizational development• Co-authoring research proposals for the European Union, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) as well as private funding bodies. <p>Successful proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>4C4Learn - Kompetenzorientiertes Unternehmenscoaching für ein nachhaltiges Kompetenzmanagement in KMU</i> (Joint research project, BMBF, 614.866,80 €)	
2009 – 2014	Researcher	Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Researcher in the European funded project MIRROR (IP-FP7). Evaluating a socio-technical approach to foster collaborative reflection at the work place.• Researcher in the German funded project VEIN. Design and evaluation of a socio-technical concept to support continuous improvement of work practice.• Research assistant in the German funded project service4home. Designing and evaluating service processes to support elderly people to live in their own home for as long as possible. Services were ordered using digital pens.• Research assistant in the project ISMS. Privacy oriented analysis of work processes in a university administration.	
2013	Visiting research fellow	Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theoretical model and survey study on behavioral intentions of process model re-use	
2011 – present	Process management consultant and coach	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• University of Missouri (School of Information Science and Learning Technologies)• VIACTIV (health insurance provider)• Heinrich Huhn GmbH & Co. KG (manufacturer of metal stampings and assemblies)• Ruhr-University Bochum (construction, IT services, human resources, finances)• Kassenärztliche Vereinigung Westfalen-Lippe (association of doctors)	
2008 – 2009	Co-founder and front-end developer	fromatob.com
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of an online travel platform in cooperation with RWTH Aachen University	

Selected publications

- Journals
- Chounta, I.-A., **Nolte, A.**, Hecking, T., Farzan, R., & Herrmann, T. (2017). When to Say "Enough is Enough!": A Study on the Evolution of Collaboratively Created Process Models. *Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact.*, 1(CSCW), 33:1-33:21.
- Nolte, A.**, Bernhard, E., Recker, J., Pittke, F., & Mendling, J. (2016). Repeated Use of Process Models: The Impact of Artifact, Technological and Individual Factors. *Decision Support Systems*, 88, 98–111.
- Herrmann, T., **Nolte, A.**, & Prilla, M. (2013). Awareness support for combining individual and collaborative process design in co-located meetings. *Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)*, 22(2), 241–270.
- Nolte, A.**, & Prilla, M. (2013). Anyone can use models: Potentials, requirements and support for non-expert model interaction. *International Journal of e-Collaboration. Special issue on „Collaborative usage and development of models“*, 9(4), 45–60.
- Conferences
- Nolte, A.**, & Herrmann, T. (2016). Facilitating Participation of Stakeholders during Process Analysis and Design. In *COOP 2016 - Proceedings of the 12th International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems* (S. 225-241). Springer.
- Prilla, M., **Nolte, A.**, Blunk, O., Liedtke, D., & Renner, B. (2015). Analyzing Collaborative Reflection Support: A Content Analysis Approach. In *ECSCW 2015: Proceedings of the 14th European Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work, 19-23 September 2015, Oslo, Norway* (S. 123–142). Springer.
- Herrmann, T., & **Nolte, A.** (2014). Combining Collaborative Modeling with Collaborative Creativity for Process Design. In *COOP 2014 - Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems* (S. 377–392). Springer.
- Nolte, A.**, & Prilla, M. (2012). Normal users cooperating on process models: Is it possible at all? In *CRIWG 2012, LNCS 7493* (S. 57–72). Springer.
- Book chapters
- Nolte, A.**, Brown, R., Anslow, C., Wiechers, M., Polyvyanyy, A., & Herrmann, T. (2016). Collaborative Business Process Modeling in Multi-surface Environments. In *Collaboration Meets Interactive Spaces* (259–286). Springer.
- Herrmann, T., **Nolte, A.**, & Prilla, M. (2016). Socio-technical Process Design—The Case of Coordinated Service Delivery for Elderly People. In *Blurring the Boundaries Through Digital Innovation* (S. 217–229). Springer.
- Jakobi, T., Castelli, N., **Nolte, A.**, Schönau, N., & Stevens, G. (2016). Towards Collaborative Green Business Process Management as a Conceptual Framework. In *Advances and New Trends in Environmental and Energy Informatics* (S. 275–293). Springer.
- Workshops
- Herrmann, T., Jahnke, I., & **Nolte, A.** (2016). Evaluating Socio-Technical Systems with Heuristics – A Feasible Approach?. In *2nd International Workshop on Socio-Technical Perspective in IS Development (STPIS'16)*
- Nolte, A.**, Brown, R. A., Poppe, E., & Craig, A. (2015). Exploring collaborative modeling of business processes on large interactive touch display walls. In *Workshop on Collaboration Meets Interactive Surfaces (CMIS): Walls, Tabletops, Mobiles, and Wearables*
- Herrmann, T., & **Nolte, A.** (2015). Sociotechnical Requirements-Specification—the example of continuous support for collaborative modelling and design. In *1st International Workshop on Socio-Technical Perspective in IS Development (STPIS'15)*

Teaching experience

Lecturer:

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| 2017 | Implementation of information systems (undergraduate) | University of Pittsburgh |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced JAVA course on GUI, event handling, exception handling, common algorithms, file I/O, database programming and web application development including HTML, CSS, Javascript | |
| 2014 – 2016 | Project management (undergraduate) | Ruhr-University Bochum |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project planning, controlling and agile methods of project management | |
| 2014 – 2015 | Process management and innovation (graduate) | Ruhr-University Bochum |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Methods and approaches for process analysis, modeling notations (BPMN, EPC, UML), approaches for process improvement, collaborative modeling, process innovation | |
| 2013 – 2014 | Subject-driven role-guided externalization of organizational models
ERASMUS summer school | JKU Linz, Austria |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Modeling basics, modeling notations (BPMN, EPC, UML) | |

Co-lecturer:

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| 2015 | Software engineering (undergraduate) | Ruhr-University Bochum |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requirements elicitation, patterns, model driven architecture | |
| 2015 | Groupware and knowledge management (graduate) | Ruhr-University Bochum |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication support, joint editing, collaborative modeling | |
| 2010 | Hard and software ergonomics | Ruhr-University Bochum |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Windows, icons, menus, pointers and controls | |

Online tutor:

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| 2016 | Information management (graduate) | EURO-FH University of Applied Sciences |
| 2016 | Business engineering (graduate) | EURO-FH University of Applied Sciences |

Student supervision:

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| 2016 | Isabella Rüsing, MA thesis: Strategische und operative Perspektiven auf Prozesse – Eine vergleichende Analyse (German) |
| 2016 | Malte Brokkötter, MA thesis: Analyse und Vergleich zweier qualitativer Erhebungsmethoden auf Basis vertriebsbedingter Abrechnungsprozesse am Beispiel einer Vertriebsstätte eines mittelständischen Logistikunternehmens (German) |
| 2015 | Christopher Lentzsch, BA thesis: Gestenbasierte Modellierung in SeeMe (German) |
| 2015 | Darius Wolodzko, MA thesis: Entwicklung und Erprobung einer regelbasierten Transformation zwischen Prozessmodellierungsnotationen am Beispiel von SeeMe nach BPMN (German) |
| 2014 | Meryem Aydogan, BA thesis: Unterstützung der Prozessmodellierung für Nutzer mit geringen Modellierungskenntnissen (German) |
| 2012 | Stefan Abramowski, BA thesis: Wiederverwendung vorhandener Modelle durch Meta-Modellierung (German) |
| 2012 | Sebastian Redwitz, BA thesis: Entwicklung einer Usability-orientierten Kommentarfunktion für SeeMe-Web (German) |

Professional services

Committees:

2018	ACM Conference on Supporting Groupwork (program committee)
2018	26 th European Conference on Information Systems (program committee)
2018	30 th International Conference on Advanced Information Systems Engineering (webmaster and social media chair)
2018	10 th International Conference on Subject-Oriented Business Process Management (program committee)
2018	Workshop on Hacking and Making at Time-Bounded Events: Current Trends and Next Steps in Research and Event Design @ CHI (organizer)
2017	Track on A sociotechnical approach for 21st century problems @ ECIS (associate editor)
2017	12 th International Conference on Global Software Engineering (program committee)
2017	Workshop on Socio-Technical Perspective in IS development @ CAISE (program committee)
2017	Workshop on The Value of Modeling @ BIR (program committee)
2017	Workshop on SocioTechnical Walkthrough – A Collaborative, Human-Centered Design & Development Method for Projects @ AECT (organizer)
2016	11 th International Conference on Global Software Engineering (publicity chair and program committee)
2015	Workshop on Collaboration Meets Interaction Surfaces @ ITS (program committee)
2013	Workshop on Models and their role in collaboration @ ECSCW (organizer)
2013	Special Issue on Collaborative usage and development of models and visualizations @ IJeC (guest editor)
2011	Workshop on Collaborative usage and development of models and visualizations @ ECSCW (organizer)
2011	ACM Workshop on Application of modern input technologies @ Informatik (program committee)
2010-2013	Workshop on Interactive displays in cooperation @ MuC (organizer)

Reviews:

Journals	Business Information Systems Engineering (BISE) Group Decision and Negotiation Journal of Systems and Software
Conferences	ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) ACM Nordic Conference on Human-Computer Interaction (NordiCHI) ACM SIGCHI Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) ACM International Conference on Interactive Surfaces and Spaces (ISS) ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW) ACM International Conference on Supporting Group Work (Group) IEEE International Conference on Global Software Engineering (ICGSE) International Conference on the Design of Cooperative Systems (COOP) International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS) European Conference on Information Systems (ECIS) International Symposium on End-User Development (IS-EUD) Participatory Design Conference (PDC) World Wide Web Conference (WWW)

Invited talks

2016	Supporting sustained collaboration over time – A socio-technical approach University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, USA
2015	Collaboration on and interaction with models of socio-technical processes Middlesex University, London, UK
2015	Socio-technical Process Design – SeeMe and the Socio-technical Walkthrough HAN University of Applied Sciences, Arnhem, Netherlands

Technical and other skills

Research	My main focus was on conducting field studies which included ethnographic methods, interviews, observations and workshops, I also conducted controlled lab studies and surveys. For analysis purposes I used MaxQDA, ELAN, Python (esp. pandas), SPSS and R.
Technical	Java, Java EE, PHP, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, GWT, MySQL, Eclipse, Linux (Ubuntu), Apache, Glassfish, MySQL, SVN

Grants, scholarships and awards

2017	Volkswagen Foundation Grant for participation in the symposium Design Trade-Offs for Quality of Life: Exploring Grand Challenges for the Digital Age, Hannover, Germany (1.500€)
2017	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Research fellowship for the project <i>Supporting sustained collaboration over time in hybrid collocated and online settings</i> at the University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA (103.249,80 €)
2015	Italian Chapter of the Association for Information Systems (itAIS) Special award Sandro D'Atri, Rome, Italy
2014	University of Liechtenstein Grant for participation in the European BPM Round Table, Vaduz, Liechtenstein (500 €)
2013	German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Scholarship for a short term research visit, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia (5.256 €)
2008	German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) eXist Business Start-up Grant, RWTH Aachen University, Germany (11.600 €)

Languages

German – native language
English – speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency