

# Amelia Edmondson-Stait

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Post-doctoral researcher transitioning into software development and testing. Building an R Shiny app during my PhD sparked my interest in software development. I deepened this interest in a software development bootcamp. Excited to bring my problem-solving, collaboration and technical skills to a software career.

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## Education

### CodeSpace Software Development Bootcamp | Edinburgh College

Feb - Apr 2025

- Built a full-stack eCommerce website with PHP, SQL, JavaScript, HTML, CSS with Cypress e2e testing.
- Proactively added password hashing and test user management features.
- Initiated task management on Jira and organised team meetings for a group presentation project.

### PhD, Translational Neuroscience | University of Edinburgh

2019 - 2024

- **Quickly learnt new technologies** to develop neuroimaging processing pipelines during a fast-paced project.
- **Took opportunities to learn new programming skills**, eg. SQL and R Shiny app development.
- Set up and **lead a coding club** for our department, fostering collaboration and skill-sharing.

### First Class Honours, BSc Neuroscience (with Placement Year) | Cardiff University

2012 - 2016

### A-levels: Biology (A\*), Chemistry (A\*), Maths (B), Art (A\*) | The Cheltenham Ladies' College

2005-2012

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## Experience

### Post-doctoral Researcher | University of Edinburgh

July 2024 – Present

- Created genetic analysis scripts for depression research whilst **learning a new language** (nextflow).
- **Work collaboratively on GitHub** with another colleague, using **pull requests** to review each other's code.
- Developing an R package for colleagues to create supplementary tables to reduce time-consuming tasks.
- Continue to lead coding club and host code review clinics in my department.

### App developer (R Shiny) | University of Edinburgh

Feb - Sep 2023

- Developed an application to facilitate statistical modelling for users without specialist backgrounds.
- **Led task and project management** with **Kanban** board in a 3-person team.
- **Exceeded client expectations** by delivering a prototype beyond minimum requirements, resulting in additional funding for me to develop the app further during a 6-month secondment to my PhD.
- **Documented bugs and user-feedback clearly and concisely with sufficient detail** with GitHub issues.

## Research Assistant | University of Cambridge

2016 – 2019

- Reconstructed neurons in a scanned fruit fly brain to create a map of connections; **analysed the data in R**.
  - **Large collaboration** with HHMI (USA) and University of Oxford, resulted in authorship of a publication.
  - **Trained six new colleagues** in the use of the neuron reconstruction software.
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## Projects

- Spotify Streaming History Dashboard (**Python Dash**).
  - E-Commerce Website (**PHP, SQL, JavaScript, end-to-end testing (Cypress), Apache, XAMMP**).
  - **JavaScript** Calculator (**automated testing** with GitHub actions and Cypress).
  - **Raspberry Pi & Python** Bus Tracker – displays next local bus time to LCD screen.
  - Web-scraping car sales site (**Python, BeautifulSoup, data-visualisation**).
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## Presentations & Public Outreach

- Co-created and presented **webinar on git and GitHub** for **The Data Lab** Scotland Community (Apr 2025).
  - **Delivered “Code Review in Academia” workshop** to University-wide audience (March 2025) and invited to deliver it again to a new student group (May 2025).
  - Delivered two workshops to showcase R Shiny app (TIDAL), received positive feedback from users (2023).
  - Created a digital story to communicate my PhD research to the public (2020).
  - Helped run stalls engaging public in research at science festivals (Edinburgh, 2019 & Cambridge, 2017).
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## Awards

- Secured external funding to deliver three workshops on code review ([Improving Research Community Builder Award](#); Oct 2024).
  - Co-investigator for Wellcome Trust Mental Health Data Prize (R Shiny application; 2023)
  - Finalist for the University of Edinburgh’s Good Research Practice Awards for coding club (Nov 2022).
  - Wellcome Trust Translational Neuroscience PhD Stipend (2019-2024)
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