# Zahra (Mona) Ghassemi

17574 Myrand ♦ Pierrefonds, Quebec, H9J 1G6 ♦ Tel: (514) 690-3373 Email: zghass@cs.mcgill.ca ♦ https://bluemona.github.io/

#### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

#### Languages:

- Java
- Python
- JavaScript
- ProcessingJS
- SQL (MySQL)

## **Operating Systems:**

- Mac OS X
- Windows
- Ubuntu (Linux)

## Web Design:

- HTML/CSS
- balsamiq (for wireframe/mockups)

### **Dev Tools / Text editors:**

- Git
- Command line (Terminal)
- Emacs / Vim

# **Word Processing/Typesetting:**

- Microsoft/Open Office
- Google Drive
- LaTeX

#### **WORK-RELATED EXPERIENCE:**

#### **Programmer/Data Analyst**

Lechowicz Lab, McGill University (Montreal, QC)

2014

- Translated code for an ecological simulation from Delphi (Pascal) to Python.
- Streamlined code and added comments to improve reusability.

#### **Course Assistant (Logic and Computability)**

McGill University (Montreal, QC)

2013

Developed questions on formal logic for use in course assignments.

# **Teaching Assistant (Introduction to Computing)**

McGill University (Montreal, QC)

2010-2012

- Evaluated programming assignments (Java).
- Responded to student questions during weekly office hours and on online discussion board.
- Taught and reviewed core course concepts with students during interactive tutorials.

#### **Grader (Java)**

Private Contract (Montreal, QC)

Summer 2011

- Assessed programming assignments (Java).
- Communicated with instructor to create an appropriate marking scheme.

# **Volunteer Tutor at McGill Computer Science Summer Camp**

McGill University (Montreal, QC)

Summers 2010-2014

- Coached camp participants during programming activities.
- Adapted and delivered a lesson on the Java programming language.
- Coordinated a small team to ensure the smooth running of the biology section of the camp.

#### **LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE:**

## **Reading Club Organizer and Discussion Lead**

#BecauseWeveRead Montreal (Montreal, QC) and JooJoo Azad

2018-present

- Hosted monthly local events centred on the book of the month.
- Promoted events through social media and intentional outreach to POC/immigrant communities.
- Coordinated outreach to local bookstores and other potential partners.
- Applied for and received funding from community organizations.
- Communicated with an international team.

## **Robotics Team Leader for CRC competition**

Vanier College (Montreal, QC)

2007-2009

- Constructed, with a team, a 12' by 12' kiosk to represent school during competitions.
- Arranged team meetings and divided tasks between members.
- Recruited team members and found replacements as necessary.
- Invited guest speakers to give talks to the team.
- Purchased materials and created illustrations for journal, website and video teams.

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN AND WRITTEN:

• English (fluent)

French (advanced)

• Farsi/Persian (fluent)

## **EDUCATION:**

## **Master of Arts: Social and Cultural Anthropology**

Concordia University (Montreal, QC)

2017

**Bachelor of Science: Computer Science and Biology** 

McGill University (Montreal, QC)

2014

#### **ADDITIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING:**

#### **Peer Support and Advocacy Training**

Centre for Gender Advocacy

2017-2018

**Leadership Certificate** 

GradProSkills, Concordia University

2017-2018

# French Language Workshops - Level 5

GradProSkills, Concordia University

2017

# CPR/First Aid Certification, Fire Safety/Evac-Chair, CERT Volunteer Training

Concordia University / Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation

May-June 2018

#### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

•	Member of Reading Group (Anthropology of Iran) with Dr. Setrag Manoukian	2014-present
•	Participant in Game-Curious Workshop Series and Game Jam	Winter 2018
•	Soccer Goalie (Montreal Muslim Women's Soccer League)	2011-2013
•	Kung Fu (Montreal Fang Shen Do School)	2006-2008