Georgia Institute of Technology®

Atlanta, Georgia

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
IS A UNIT OF THE
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE ADMISSION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Legal Name: GNATZ _____ Dylan _____ Lochlan Wickramasekera _____
  Last name (Family name)   *First name (Personal Name)*   *Middle Name*   *Suffix*

Preferred First Name: _____

Will we possibly receive records for you under any other name? ❑YES ☒NO

If yes, what name? _____ _____ _____
  First   *Middle*   *Last*

Gender: ☒Male ❑Female   Date of Birth: 11-24-1995 mm/dd/yyyy   Place of Birth: Chicago, IL, United States of America

Permanent Address: Street   1439 22nd Ave _____
Family Home   _____

City   Seattle, WA _____   Country   United States of America _____

Mail Code 98122 _____   Permanent Telephone _____

E-mail Address: dylan.gnatz@gmail.com _____

Current Address: This address is valid until: _____ mm/dd/yy
Present Location   Street   _____

_____

City   _____   Country _____

Mail Code _____

U.S. Cellular Telephone   303-406-8268 _____

Degree Objective: Masters _____   Campus: Online _____   Admit Term: Spring 2020 _____

Graduate Major: Master of Science in Computer Science - Online _____

Are you a: Previous/current graduate student at another institution

Have you previously applied for admission, been enrolled as a student, or been otherwise affiliated with Georgia Tech resulting in assignment of a gtID number? ❑YES ☒NO

gtID Number: _____

If your degree objective is Masters, do you plan to pursue a PhD degree in the future? ❑YES ❑NO

If Yes, when?_____   If 'Other' please explain: _____

Are you a current Georgia Tech graduate student? ☐ YES ☐NO

Are you seeking to CHANGE graduate degree programs or to ADD a secondary degree program?

☐YES ☐ NO

FUNDING

Do you wish to be considered for Financial Assistance?   ☒YES ☐NO
Do you require Financial Assistance in order to Attend Georgia Tech?   ☒YES ☐NO

ACADEMIC HISTORY

College Code	Name of Institution	City	Attend From	Attend To	Degree	Degree Date	Major	GPA
004695	Seattle University	Seattle	09-2013	12-2018	BS	12-2018	Marine and	3.77
004695	Seattle University	Seattle	06-2018	06-2019		09-2019	Computer Science	4.0

TEST SCORES *Please indicate the date you have taken OR will take the required test(s).*

TEST	DATE	V	%	Q	%	AW	%	TOTAL SCORE
GRE								
GRE SUBJECT		TOPIC:						
GMAT								
TOEFL								
TOEIC								

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following individuals have agreed to provide recommendations on my behalf.

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	INSTITUTION
Sheila Oh	ohsh@seattleu.edu	Seattle University
Kevin Lundeen	lundeenk@seattleu.edu	Seattle University
Thien-Son Nguyen	thiennguyen@benaroyaresearch.org	Benaroya Research Institute

SELF-REPORTED BACKGROUND DISCLOSURE

Georgia Institute of Technology is committed to maintaining a safe environment for all members of our community. All applicants must answer these questions. An affirmative answer to any of these questions does not automatically bar admission to the institute, but does require review. You are required to provide an explanation for each instance you answer Yes. The statement will be used in the review process.

1. Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation? ❏YES ☒NO

    If yes, please briefly explain here.

2. Are there any criminal charges currently pending against you? ❏YES ☒NO

    If yes, please briefly explain here.

3. Have you entered a plea of guilty, a plea of no contest, a plea of nolo contendere, an Alford plea to a criminal charge, a plea under a first offender act? ❏YES ☒NO

    If yes, please briefly explain here.

4. Do you currently have disciplinary or academic misconduct charges pending against you from a high school, college or university? ❏YES ☒NO

    If yes, please briefly explain here.

5. Have you ever been disciplined, suspended, or expelled for conduct code violations from a high school or post-secondary educational Institution? ❏YES ☒NO

    If yes, please briefly explain here.

CITIZENSHIP AND ETHNICITY INFORMATION

☒U.S. Citizen
❏Non-US Citizen   Country of Citizenship (if not US):   _____

                         Do you hold citizenship in any other country?   ❏YES ☒NO
                         Other Country of Citizenship: _____

                    Are you currently in the U.S. or will travel to the U.S. with a visa prior to
                    your potential enrollment at Georgia Tech?   ❏YES ❏NO

                    If so, what is your current Visa type?   ❏F-1 ❏J-1 ❏Other

                    Sevis ID (if available): _____

                    Will you require a student visa to study at Georgia Tech?   ❏YES ❏NO

                    If yes, ❏F-1 ❏J-1

Note: *Permanent Residents are classified as Non-Citizens until a Permanent Resident Card is provided.*

The information requested below will not be used for admission purposes. The data will be used to satisfy federal reporting requirements and other purposes allowed by law.

Are you Hispanic or Latino?   ❏YES ☒NO

Check all that categorize your race.

(Note: Regardless of your answer to the previous question, please mark one or more races to indicate what you consider yourself to be.)

> ☒   White
> ❏   American Indian or Alaskan Native
> ☒   Asian
> ❏   Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
> ❏   Black or African American

RESIDENCY   *(Required for US/PR only – International applicants please leave blank)*

US State of Legal Residence   WA_____

If GEORGIA, Country of Residence   _____

If you consider yourself a legal resident of the State   ❏YES ☒NO
of Georgia (US), do you expect to receive in-state tuition fee rates?

 *NOTE   If YES, you will be required to complete the Georgia Residency Application which is a part of this application. Once received, your credentials
            will be evaluated and a notation of your residency status will be entered in the applicant data- base and will appear on Status Checking.*

All persons admitted to institutions of higher learning in the State of Georgia will be required to submit documentation proving that they are lawfully in the United States. If an applicant wishes to be considered for in-state tuition rates, he/she must also present

U.S. MILITARY INFORMATION

Are you currently active duty, a veteran, member of the National Guard or   ❏YES ☒NO
Reservist in the US Armed Forces?   If yes, please specify. _____

If Active Duty, which Branch? _____   Home of Record State? _____

Are you the spouse or dependent child under the age of 24 of someone who is currently active duty, a veteran, member of the National Guard or Reservist in the U.S. Armed Forces? ❏YES ☒NO

NON-U.S. MILITARY/GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Are you currently active duty, veteran, a member of the National Guard, or a Reservist in any Non-US Military armed force? ❏YES ☒NO

Country: _____

Branch: _____

Are you currently employed or on leave from any Non-US Government Agency? ❏YES ☒NO

Country: _____

Agency/branch: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Are you currently enrolled in any other Educational Institutions? ☒YES ❏NO

Country: United States of America

Name of Institution: Seattle University

Are you currently employed or on leave of absence from employment? ☒YES ❏NO

Country: United States of America

Name of Company: T-Mobile

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete. I understand that omission or misrepresentation herein may result in automatic rejection of my application to Georgia Tech. If admitted, I agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Academic honor Code of the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Signature of Applicant _Dylan Lochlan Wickramasekera GNATZ_____ Date _06-30-2019_____

Rev 11/2016

PART 4 GEORGIA TECH ONLINE MASTERS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE APPLICATION

Name: Dylan GNATZ

☒ I affirm I have provided the above information requested by the program.

1. How did you learn about Georgia Tech's Online Master of Science in Computer Science program? Internet search

2. List **other graduate programs** to which you have applied. (optional)

UNIVERSITY NAME

3. Briefly describe your eventual **career objective**. Your space is limited to 150 characters (e.g., University Professor, Industry Researcher, etc.).
   Machine Learning Engineer

4. Please describe your **background** (academic and extracurricular) and experience, including research, teaching, industry, and other relevant information. Your space is limited to 2000 characters.

Although my Bachelor's Degree is in biology, I discovered late in my undergraduate career that I had a great propensity for programming and computer science. Through a course in bioinformatics during my junior year, I was exposed to scripting in Python. I enjoyed this experience with bioinformatics so much that I continued on as a student developer in the bioinformatics lab at my school. Working directly with the P.I., Dr. Robert Rutherford, I developed and augmented a bioinformatics tool called the Faux Sequence Evolver [FaSE]. This tool iteratively mutates nucleotide or amino acid coded protein sequences, and generates biologically credible, novel descendant sequences.

After receiving my B.S. in Biology, I applied and was accepted to the Graduate Certificate of Computer Science Fundamentals program at Seattle University, which provides students from non-CS backgrounds with the prerequisites needed to succeed in graduate studies in Computer Science. This program provided coursework in introductions to Java, C++, object oriented programming, databases, algorithm design and analysis, computing systems principles, and software engineering. I was highly successful in this program, achieving a 4.0 cumulative GPA, and being offered automatic admission to the M.S. Computer Science program at Seattle University.

Currently, I am working as a software intern at T-Mobile on the Internet of Things team. I am working with several IoT developer kits, building open-source device prototypes that leverage narrowband and LTE CAT-M1 technologies. Currently, I am building an edge computing prototype that utilizes AWS Greengrass, a Raspberry Pi, and OpenCV facial recognition algorithms to detect missing persons. Through this internship, I have been building full-stack projects, writing device drivers in C++, scripting in Python, and building web app servers and front-ends with JavaScript, Node.js, and React.js.

Statement of Purpose

I have always harbored diverse interests, from biology to literature to philosophy, and this desire to learn and think across disciplines has been present throughout my education. My amalgam of multidisciplinary interests has historically made pinning down a singular academic focus painstakingly difficult. While I greatly enjoyed pursuing biological research during my undergraduate career, I was instantly enamored once I began writing Python code in the middle of my junior year. This was my first brush with coding, and my introduction to what I am now certain will be a lifelong passion. For me, programming never fails to be intellectually stimulating. As a computer scientist, one works simultaneously as an engineer, architect, and translator, and the novel challenges are endless. The more programming I do, the less I can see myself pursuing anything else as a career. As such, I have decided to pursue an M.S. in computer science, and I can think of no better option than Georgia Tech's OMSCS program.

My past year in the Graduate Certificate in Computer Science Fundamentals program at Seattle University has made me extremely eager to begin my M.S. studies, and to take advanced courses in the areas of computing that most interest me - namely, machine learning and artificial intelligence. Furthermore, my work as a software intern in IoT at T-Mobile has granted me industry exposure to areas of computer science that I find absolutely fascinating. I have been challenged to utilize cloud technologies, leverage new network technologies like narrowband and CAT-M1, and to learn the theory behind paradigms like edge computing and 5G. Through my studies in C.S. and applied experience at T-Mobile, I have settled on the goal of becoming a machine learning engineer. It is clear that the combination of ever-advancing machine learning models and the high-bandwidth, low-latency connectivity of 5G will utterly revolutionize every aspect of our day-to-day lives, and I am highly committed to working at the forefront of this new industrial revolution.

Although I was offered direct admission into Seattle University's MSCS program, and considered programs at a number of different schools around the country, I am highly committed to pursuing my M.S. at Georgia Tech. First and foremost, the Georgia Tech College of Computing has an extremely strong reputation, and I am certain that it will offer me a world-class education. Additionally, the OMSCS program offers me unmatched flexibility to pursue my classes while also continuing to further my career in industry, through its online distance learning model. Furthermore, the OMSCS program boasts an extremely impressive array of classes, and will allow me to pursue dual specializations in Machine Learning and Interactive Intelligence. For all of these reasons, I am certain that the OMSCS program is the perfect next step in furthering my career, and I am immensely excited to begin my studies in the College of Computing.