

Elijah Phifer II

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|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
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| Website | elijah-phifer.github.io | | |

Education

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|-------------------------------|---|
| August 2025 - Present | PhD; Louisiana State University Computer Science, Software Engineering and Robotics |
| August 2021 - May 2025 | BS; Honors Diploma; Southeastern Louisiana University Major: Computer Science - Scientific Minor: Mathematics |

Current Employment

STEM Student Employee (SSEP)
US Naval Research Laboratory
August 2024 - Present

Past Employment

January 2023 - May 2025: Undergraduate Research Assistant
Wright Lab - Southeastern Louisiana University

January 2024 - May 2025: Math Tutor and Student Administrator
Southeastern Louisiana University Tinsley Learning Center

January 2023 - May 2025: iHub Student Worker
Southeastern Louisiana University Innovation Hub

January 2024 - June 2024: Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science
"Ignite, Inspire, Energize" Project,
in partnership with Northshore Technical Community College and LaSTEM
Southeastern Louisiana University

May 2023 - September 2023: Software Engineering Intern
AgriSompo

January 2023 - December 2023: Math and Computer Science Tutor, Tinsley Learning Center
Southeastern Louisiana University

August 2022 - December 2022: Intern Farmers Market Manager, Department of Sociology
Southeastern Louisiana University

In Review

Phifer, E, Wright, DE, Wagner, PJ, & Wright, AM. In Review. Testing Character Evolution Models in Phylogenetic Paleobiology with Reversible Jump Markov-Chain Monte Carlo. Submitted to Paleobiology. Preprint available at: <https://wright-lab.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/cinctansrjmcmc.pdf>

Awards and Honors

2025: Senior Tutor Leadership Award.
2025: Honors Diploma Recipient.
2024: Thirteen Club Honors Recognition.
2024: Thomas F Higginbotham Scholarship Award.
2023: Southeastern Louisiana University Sophomore Honors Distinction.
2022 - 2025: Southeastern Louisiana University Honors Program.
2021 - 2025: SELU President's List Recipient.
2021 - 2025: TOPS Opportunity Award. ~\$2,826 per semester

Certifications and Badges

2024: CRLA Level II Advanced Certified Tutor. *SELU Tinsley Learning Center*.
2023: CRLA Level I Certified Tutor. *SELU Tinsley Learning Center*.
2023: Practical Introduction to Quantum-Safe Cryptography. *IBM*.

Leadership

UPE Vice President

Upsilon Pi Epsilon - SELU Chapter
2024 - 2025

Student Ambassador

SELU College Of Honors & Excellence
2024 - 2025

Project Team Lead

SELU CMPS 411 - Capstone
2024

Project Team Lead

SELU CMPS 401 - Survey of Programming Languages
2024

Secretary

Reconnect - Southeastern Louisiana University
2024 - 2025

President

Southeastern Vegans - Southeastern Louisiana University
2023 - 2024

Treasurer

Reconnect - Southeastern Louisiana University
2023 - 2024

President

Reconnect - Southeastern Louisiana University
2022 - 2023

Secretary

Southeastern Vegans - Southeastern Louisiana University
2022

Project Team Lead

SELU CMPS 285 - Software Development
2022

Presentations, Public Speaking, Volunteer work and Workshops

Robotics Competition Judge

First Tech Challenge Hammond Qualifier
Volunteer, 2024

Computer Science Student Volunteer

The Tangipahoa African American Heritage Museum
Volunteer, 2024

Freshman Orientation

Southeastern Louisiana University College Of Science And Technology
Student Panelist, 2024

Industry Advisory Board

Southeastern Louisiana University Department of Computer Science
Student Panelist, 2023 - Present

Biogeographical Computing in R Workshop

Biogeography and Macroecology 2023

Honors Research Showcase

Southeastern Louisiana University
"Estimating Ancestral Lineages from Evolutionary Hypotheses" Presenter, 2023

Prepare for Success: First Gen Seminar

Southeastern Louisiana University
"Creating Tests As A Method of Studying." Conference presenter, 2023

Industry Advisory Board

Southeastern Louisiana University Department of Computer Science
"Listy: A Small Business Owner's BestFriend" Presenter, 2022

Software

EnlightDen

SELU CMPS 411 - Capstone (*Honors Project*)
2024

PlanetSim: A Dynamic N-Body Orbit Simulator

SELU CMPS 401 - Survey Of Programming Languages
2024

Listy

SELU CMPS 285 - Software Development
2022

Relevant Projects

Get-A-Grip: A fully 3D-printed robotic hand controlled by remote glove

SELU CMPS 375 - Computer Architecture
2024

Supplemental Instructional Videos

"Ignite, Inspire, Energize" - SELU Department of Computer Science
2024

Mathematical Foundations of Cryptography: A Short Course

SELU CMPS 329 - Networking and Security (*Honors Project*)
2024

Programming Languages and Familiar Technologies

| | | | | |
|---------|----------|--------|---------------------|-------|
| Java | C/C++/C# | Python | R | Julia |
| MIPS | HTML | CSS | JavaScript | |
| FORTRAN | COBOL | BASIC | Apache Spark/Hadoop | |

Relevant Courses

Calculus I (MATH 200 Honors)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Calculus II (MATH 201)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Calculus III (MATH 312)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Discrete Math (MATH 223)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Numerical Methods (MATH 392)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Statistics I (MATH 380)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Differential Equations (MATH 350)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Software Engineering (CMPS 285)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Networking and Security (CMPS 329 Honors)

Southeastern Louisiana University

System Administration (CMPS 315)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Computer Architecture (CMPS 375)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Survey Of Programming Languages (CMPS 401)

Southeastern Louisiana University

Organizations

Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE)

Southeastern Louisiana University

2024 - Present

The Association for Computer Machinery (ACM)

Southeastern Louisiana University

2023 - Present

Reconnect (Student-led sustainability organization)

Southeastern Louisiana University

2022 - 2025

Southeastern Vegans

Southeastern Louisiana University

2022 - 2025

References

Assistant Dean, Dr. April Wright (Assistant Dean Of The College of Science and Technology)

Email: April.Wright@selu.edu

Dr. Bonnie Achée (Interim Department Head of the Southeastern Computer Science Department)
Email: Bonnie.Achee@selu.edu

Marie Bernard (Director of the Southeastern Tinsley Learning Center)
Phone: (985) 549-3269
Email: Marie.Bernard@selu.edu

James Machen (Former Manager at AgriSompo)
Email: jmachen@sompo-intl.com

Dr. David Burley (Former Professor and Advisor for Farmers Market Internship)
Email: David.Burley@selu.edu