Benjamin Peck

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DATA SCIENTIST

A data scientist with extensive experience in historical and genealogical research, I am passionate about applying new methods to old questions. My linear, objective-oriented thought process and close attention to detail enable me to process and interpret large and complex bodies of information. A driven and independent worker, I collaborate readily and excel at oral and written communication.

SKILLS

Data Analysis | Python | SQL | Tableau | Machine Learning | Historical Research | Microsoft Office

EXPERIENCE

Data Science Immersive Student at General Assembly in Washington, DC

December 2019 to March 2020

- Twelve-week intensive course covering topics from basic Pandas through neural networks
- Completed a client project estimating flood depths from ground-based images using convolutional neural networks, image segmentation, and preprocessing techniques
- Completed a final project using predictive modeling and different clustering approaches to analyze geographic trends in county-level US federal data.

Independent Researcher in Washington, DC

July 2018 to present

- Review collections and digitize relevant documents for clients conducting historical research
- Research at locations including Library of Congress and National Archives (sites I and II) utilizing text, still images, and cartographic/architectural materials in paper, microfilm, and digital formats
- Write scripts to scrape digitized material, interact with APIs, and organize and analyze retrieved data and metadata

Historical Geography Technician at GeoSearch Environmental Information in Washington, DC March 2017 to May 2018

- Utilized collections at the Library of Congress to determine the usage history of properties
- Worked independently and collaboratively to locate and digitize relevant documents and enter data and metadata into a proprietary database
- Automated repetitive tasks with Python scripts and explored potential improvements to process

Independent Researcher in Lansing, MI

December 2015 to March 2017

- Conducted library and internet-based genealogical research and presented findings to clients
- Hired as an independent contractor to organize, select, and scan materials from the archive of a Fortune 500 company

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

B.A. in History, May 2016

- Traditional research-oriented history education with additional studies in digital humanities and data analysis
- Recipient of the Alumni Distinguished Scholarship