

CURRICULUM DĒFECTŪS

Guo Jiurui

Introduction

This is a CV of Failure where I record my notable failures, rejections, and setbacks throughout my academic journey. As I've written in my Unofficial About-me, most of what I try often ends up a failure. While it is common to fail more than to achieve, these failures are often invisible. Only showing the achievements and successes provides an incomplete and biased perspective of the progress, so I found it necessary to demonstrate the failures.

I'd like to follow [Prof. Johannes Haushofer](#), whose CV of Failure gained great attention and made the concept popular, and [Prof. Melanie I. Stefan](#), whose article in *Nature* inspired the idea.

This is a non-exhaustive list of failures due to my memory failure, and the list is expected to grow continuously. If your list is longer than mine, congratulations on your resilience, for you are better at trying things than I am.

Academic Failures

Failed Degree Program Applications

- 2025** Rejected from IMPRS Fellowships and IMPRS for Language Sciences, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics
- 2024** Rejected from all Ph.D. Programs in Linguistics I applied to (Harvard, Yale, Stanford, UMass, UMich, Ohio State, UW Seattle, UC Santa Barbara, Buffalo, Hong Kong U)
- 2020** Unsuccessful application for Undergraduate Program at Georgia Institute of Technology

Failed Research Position Applications

- 2023** Ghosted from all Research Assistant application (Stanford, Brown, MIT, Harvard)

Professional Failures

Rejected Job Applications

- 2025** Unsuccessful application for **Data Analyst** at Beijing Daxing International Airport
- 2023** Unsuccessful application (did not pass resume selection) for **Product Manager Internship** at Duolingo

Deprecated Technical Skills

Coding Languages: C++, SAS

Natural Languages: German (1 semester), Russian (self-study), Old English (self-study)

Personal: Emotional Independence (but I am trying to regain)

Personal Life Failures

2024 and 2025 Experienced severe **burnout and depressive episode** from application and other events
– led to academic underperformance and strained relationships

2023 Failed to maintain **exercise routine**, leading to significant weight gain and health complications