

Jonathan Karr

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Bio: Jonathan Karr is a second-year Ph.D. student in Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Notre Dame, and he is concurrently pursuing an M.A. in Theology. His research focuses on AI for Social Good and specializes in bias detection and mitigation in large language models, with an emphasis on topics including homelessness and faith. He is a Lucy Graduate Scholar and is the founder of the Technology and Catholicism Club of Notre Dame.

Education

Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering, University of Notre Dame *Aug 2024 - Present*

- Research Focus: AI for Social Good - LLM bias detection regarding homelessness and faith using Data Mining, NLP, and Graph Learning
- Advisor: Dr. Nitesh V. Chawla

M.A. in Theology University of Notre Dame *May 2025 - Present*

M.S. in Computer Science and Engineering University of Notre Dame *Aug 2023 - Present*

B.S. in Computer Science University of Notre Dame *May 2024*

- Concentration: Cyber Security
- Minors: Engineering Corporate Practice, Theology

Research Experience

Graduate Researcher, Lucy Institute for Data and Society, University of Notre Dame *Sep 2024 - Present*

- Developed a taxonomy and classification categories for LLMs to assess bias of people experiencing homelessness by creating a multi-modal dataset from social media, news articles, and meeting minutes
- Principal Investigators: Dr. Georgina Curto Rex and Dr. Matthew Hauenstein
- Presented research at ACL'25 and IJCAI'25, will present at UNU Macau AI Conference 25, and Adaptive Faith Technology and Religious Change in the Digital Age

Undergraduate Researcher, CRC, University of Notre Dame *Sep 2022 - Aug 2024*

- Research Focus: Knowledge Graphs (KG) and NLP for Naval Weapons Systems Intelligence
- Developed NLP algorithms to process naval maintenance summaries using Python and LLMs under Dr. Paul Brenner
- Presented research at CRANE and the DoD Symposium

Work Experience

Software Engineering Intern, Qualcomm, Auburn Hills, MI *Jun 2021 - Aug 2023*

- **Summer 2023:** Developed cross-platform code compilation, reducing build time by over 40% using CMake
- **Summer 2022:** Created over 30 unit tests for Qualcomm Audio Calibration Tool, saving developers significant time
- **Summer 2021:** Designed a dashboard for KATS (Kymera Automated Test Systems) to display the results of DSP code tests

Coding Instructor

Dec 2020 - Present

- Served as graduate TA for Algorithms (Fall '24) under Dr. Danny Chen
- Served as an undergrad TA for Computer Architecture (Fall '23) and Logic Design (Spring '24) under Dr. Aaron Dingler
- Created educational Python and C tutorials for 1,900+ YouTube subscribers
- Taught middle and high school students Python fundamentals, preparing them for the PCEP-30-01 certification (Dec '20 - Feb Jan'21).

Founder, National Running Club Database

Jun 2024 - Present

- Developed a database for NIRCA running clubs to access over 100,000 race results
- Platform has over 19,000 unique users, with an average engagement of 1m 14s per session

Leadership & Volunteering

Student Representative, Notre Dame AI Innovation Council

Sep 2023 - Present

- Led student rollout of Gemini and NotebookLM in May 25
- Represented student body for the Generative AI Taskforce to evaluate educational and research impacts of AI

Founder & President, Technology & Catholicism of Notre Dame Club

Sep 2024 - Present

- Founded and lead discussions on the intersection of technology and Catholicism

Mentor, Catholic Ministry

Aug 2022 - Present

- Mentor RCIA, Short Course, and OCIA candidates as sponsor/Godparent
- Assist as the Student Advisor for the Fischer Grad Faith Community (May 2025-Present)
- Served as Stanford Hall Sacristan (Aug '22 - May '24)

Publications

- **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., Chawla, N. "Can LLMs Contribute to Social Inclusion? A Zero-Shot Analysis of Homelessness Bias Detection on Reddit", *ACL SRW '25*.
- **Karr, J.**, Smith, E., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., Chawla, N. "What is Behind Homelessness Bias? Using LLMs and NLP to Mitigate Homelessness by Acting on Social Stigma", *IJCAI'25 AI for Social Good*.
- **Karr, J.** "Measuring and Mitigating Homelessness Bias: Leveraging AI for Social Impact", *IJCAI'25 Doctoral Consortium*.

Pending Publications

- Mealey, K., **Karr, J.**, Saboia Moreira, P., Brenner, P., & Vardeman II, C. (2024). "Trusted Knowledge Extraction for Operations and Maintenance Intelligence", *Pending Publication / arXiv*.
- **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hua, T., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., Chawla, N. "Combating Homelessness Stigma with LLMs: A New Multi-Modal Dataset for Bias Detection", *Pending Publication / arXiv*.
- **Karr, J.**, Darden, B., Pell, N., Fryer, R., Ambrose, K., Hall, E., Bualuan, R., Chawla, N. "National Running Club Database: Assessing Collegiate Club Athletes' Cross Country Race Results", *Pending Publication / arXiv*.
- **Karr, J.**, Lad, D., Hernandez, D., Conwill, L., Scheirer, W., Chawla, N. "Equivocation and Erosion: How LLMs Undermine Catholic Religious Discourse", *Abstract Accepted: Adaptive Faith Technology and Religious Change in the Digital Age*.

Datasets

- Multimodal PEH Dataset v1.0.1: A dataset on homeless from Reddit, X, news, and meeting minutes from 2015-2025. **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hua, T., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., Chawla, N. (2025), Zenodo, 10.5281/zenodo.16877412
- National Running Club Dataset v1.0.0: A dataset from 2023-2024 NIRCA cross country runners **Karr, J.**, Darden, B., Pell, N., (2025), Zenodo, 10.5281/zenodo.16652625
- OMIn Dataset v1.0.0: A dataset for naval maintenance summaries Mealey, K., **Karr, J.**, Saboia Moreira, P., Finch, D., Riter, A., Brenner, P., & Vardeman II, C. (2024)., Zenodo, 10.5281/zenodo.13333825

Reports

- University of Notre Dame Generative AI Taskforce (Livingston, J., Rhoads, J., Abbasi, A., Behrens, J., Flanagan, T., Grisoli, B., Hockx-Yu, H., **Karr, J.**, Kuskova, V., Lee, Y. S., Metoyer, R., Nabrzyski, J., O'Connell, M. E., Roney, L., Russo, A., Schnell, S., Skendzel, D.). (2024, May). *Generative AI Taskforce Report and Recommendations*. University of Notre Dame.

Presentations

- **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hua, T., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., & Chawla, N. (2025). Using LLMs to Generate Indices on Social Biases Against Homelessness *Will Present at UNU Macau AI '25*.
- **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., & Chawla, N. (2025). Measuring and Mitigating Homelessness Bias: Leveraging AI for Social Impact *Notre Dame Graduate Research Symposium*.
- **Karr, J.** (2025). Hidden In Plain Sight: Language Bias and Homelessness. *Notre Dame 3MT Finalist Presentation*.

Posters

- **Karr, J.**, Herbst, B., Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., & Chawla, N. (2025). Measuring and Mitigating Homelessness Bias: Leveraging AI for Social Impact. *Will present at RISE '25*.
- Smith, E., **Karr, J.**, Hauenstein, M., Curto, G., & Chawla, N. (2025). Mapping and Mitigating Homelessness Bias: Leveraging AI for Social Impact. *Student Choice Best Research Award*.
- **Karr, J.**, Mealey, K., Finch, D., Riter, A., Moreira, P., Vardeman, C., & Brenner, P. (Spring 2024). Readiness of Knowledge Extraction Tools for Application to Maintenance Data.
- **Karr, J.**, Mealey, K., Finch, D., Riter, A., Moreira, P., Vardeman, C., & Brenner, P. (Fall 2023). Survey of Knowledge Extraction Tools for Maintenance Data.
- **Karr, J.**, Broussard, S., Hartlep, Z., Alcindor, S., Vardeman, C., Brenner, P., & Phillips, E. (Spring 2023). KG Construction with LLM (ChatGPT) Support.

Certifications

Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer (PCEP-30-01), CompTIA ITF+ (FC0-U61), Google Analytics, Microsoft Introduction to Programming Using Python (MTA 98-381), and CITI Social & Behavioral Research