

# Mara Ulloa

PhD Student

Department of Computer Science

Northwestern University

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## EDUCATION

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PhD – Computer Science Northwestern University	09/2021 – Current
B.S. – Computer Science Northeastern Illinois University	08/2018 – 05/2021

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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<b>PHD INTERN</b> <i>We All Code (WAC) – Chicago, IL</i>	03/2021 – Current
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work closely with WAC founder and interns in supporting WAC's mission of introducing a diverse group of children to coding via free educational resources</li><li>• Design student recruitment strategies and deliver material to local establishments</li><li>• Mentor students (ages 7 – 18) in virtual and in-person coding workshops</li><li>• Build community with local host organizations and WAC</li></ul>	
<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE PEER LEADER</b> <i>Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) – Chicago, IL</i>	08/2019 – 05/2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lead weekly virtual workshops on programming I and II concepts</li><li>• Collaborate with other peer leaders and faculty in optimizing programming workshops</li><li>• Participate in combined virtual and in-person Peer Leader training</li><li>• Demonstrate strong communication, leadership, and organizational skills</li><li>• Serve as a role model and guide students to campus resources and external opportunities</li></ul>	

**COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY PRESIDENT**08/2019 –  
05/2021*Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) – Chicago, IL*

- Attend meetings with faculty advisor and other officers on implementation of student-led biweekly workshops
- Partake in the team responsible for maintaining the society's website
- Recruit peers to attend workshops provided by a team of officers on tools such as GitHub and JavaScript fundamentals

**SIPARCS SOFTWARE ENGINEER INTERN**05/2020 –  
08/2020*The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) – Boulder, CO*

- Developed a new touchscreen interface that displays real-time weather data to deliver a user- friendly and educational kiosk application to be installed at NCAR's Mesa Lab and NCAR Wyoming Supercomputing Center
- Lead virtual user interviews and communicate with stakeholders with the goal of gathering application requirements
- Took an active role in team meetings, engaging with all parties and transcribing detailed notes of plans, decisions and options discussed
- Participated in ten weekly science communication workshops while engaging in group and team building discussions
- Gave a poster and oral presentation to the NCAR and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) scientific community

**RESEARCH INTERN**05/2019 –  
11/2019*Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) – Chicago, IL*

- Apply text classification algorithms that identified text as harmful or non-harmful with 87% accuracy
- Used Python scripts to retrieve and classify new socially relevant text memes from existing datasets
- Engaged in weekly career development workshops
- Researched various subjects that were related to the project and presented information to mentors and team
- Presented a poster at SACNAS National Conference and NEIU's Student Center for Science Engagement symposium

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- Programming Languages: Java, Python, HTML, CSS, SQL
- UX tools: NinjaMock
- Version control: GitHub

## CERTIFICATES

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- Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research
- Researchers Involved in Human Subjects Research
- Online Teaching Fundamentals Workshop

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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- **PHOTOGRAPHER** *Pancreatic Cancer Action Network*
- **DOG WALKER** *Chicago Canine Rescue*
- **FUNDRAISER ORGANIZER** *Cornerstone Autism Services*
- **MEAL PREP VOLUNTEER** *North Park Friendship Center*
- **FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER** *Northeastern Illinois University*
- **FUNDRAISER ORGANIZER** *Leukemia & Lymphoma Society*
- **PHONE BANK VOLUNTEER** *Lurie Children's Hospital*

## EXTRACURRICULARS

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- Computer Science Social Initiative
- Computer Science Society
- McNair Scholars Program
- Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)
- The Lincoln Academy of Illinois
- Theta Chi Omega National Multicultural Sorority Inc
- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

## AWARDS

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- Abraham Lincoln Civic Engagement Award
- The National TheDream.US Scholarship
- Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) Computer Science Scholarship

## COLLOQUIA

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1. Developing a Real-Time Weather Museum Touchscreen, Mara Ulloa, Sharon Clark, Becca Hatheway, Jeff Weber, Elliott Foust, Summer Wasson, Yuan Ho. The National Center for Atmospheric Research: SIParCS & NCAR-Wyoming Presentations, Boulder, CO July 29, 2020.
2. Developing a Real-Time Weather Museum Touchscreen, Mara Ulloa, Sharon Clark, Becca Hatheway, Jeff Weber, Elliott Foust, Summer Wasson, Yuan Ho. The National Center for Atmospheric Research Poster Presentations, Boulder, CO July 30, 2020.
3. Developing a Real-Time Weather Museum Touchscreen, Mara Ulloa, Sharon Clark, Becca Hatheway, Jeff Weber, Elliott Foust, Summer Wasson, Yuan Ho. UCLA National McNair Conference, Los Angeles, CA July 29 - 31, 2020.
4. Creating a Large Cyberbullying Dataset from Multiple Sources to Improve the Accuracy of Cyberbullying Classifications, Mara Ulloa, Jorge Garcia, Mirna Salem, Christopher Gomez, Rachel F. Adler, Francisco Iacobelli and Rachel Trana. 2019 SACNAS The National Diversity in STEM Conference, Honolulu, HI, October 30 - November 3, 2019.
5. Cyberbullying Classification: Analysis of Text in Social Media Memes. Jorge A. Garcia, Mara Ulloa, Mirna Salem, Christopher Gomez, Rachel F. Adler Ph.D., Francisco Iacobelli Ph.D., and Rachel Trana, Ph.D. 11th Annual SCSE Student Research Symposium, Chicago, IL September 27, 2019.
6. Cyberbullying Classification: Semantic Analysis of Text in Shared Image Memes, Jorge Garcia, Mara Ulloa, Mirna Salem, Christopher Gomez, Rachel F. Adler, Francisco Iacobelli and Rachel Trana. 2019 SACNAS The National Diversity in STEM Conference, Honolulu, HI, October 30 - November 3, 2019.