

MATTHEW LENTZ

Undergraduate Student at Mississippi State University

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Summary

Senior meteorology student at Mississippi State University with a 4.0 GPA and research experience in wildfire climatology, climate modeling, and weather communication. Proficient in Python and ArcGIS Pro. Passionate about applying science to serve diverse communities and improve weather and climate resilience through education and research.

EDUCATION

Mississippi State University

Bachelor of Science: August 2022 - May 2026

- Major: Geosciences (Concentration in Professional Meteorology)
- Minors: Math and Sociology
 - GPA: 4.0
 - Shackouls Honors College Student

SKILLS

Programming & Data Analysis:

- Python: Proficient in data analysis for diverse projects, including USDA collaborations (soil moisture and climate change impacts on agriculture) and wildfire research in the Ozarks and Ouachitas.
- Data Analysis Techniques: Statistical analysis, data visualization, predictive modeling.
- ArcGIS Pro: Applied for spatial data analysis for wildfire research in the Ozarks and Ouachitas.

CERTIFICATIONS

Trained Storm Spotter | Certified 2021

- Completed NWS storm spotter certification course and training
 - Certified by the National Weather Service in Little Rock

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

National Weather Service - Little Rock, AR

Intern | Summer 2024

- Assisted with forecasting operations using AWIPS and Grawmet
- Launched weather balloons, participated in storm surveys, answered calls, and spoke on the NOAA weather radio

USDA - Agricultural Research Service, Starkville, MS

Undergraduate Researcher | Fall 2024 - Spring 2025

- Modeled extreme rainfall and temperature trends under RCP 4.5 & 8.5 using Python
- Assessed historical/future climate data to support sustainable agricultural practices with Dr. Feng

University of Central Arkansas (Remote)

Undergraduate Research Assistant - Wildfire Climatology | Summer 2025

- Analyzed wildfire trends in the Ozark and Ouachita Mountains using ArcGIS Pro and Python
- Evaluated fire causes, climate patterns, and spatial distributions with Dr. Flatley

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Member of the East Mississippi Chapter of the NWA and AMS

Fall 2022 - Present

- Organized and led activities that support and promote excellence in operational meteorology through research, forecasting, broadcasting, and education.
- Coordinated guest speaker events and workshops to enhance members' understanding of meteorology and related disciplines

REFERENCES

Person: **Dr. Michelle Saunders**
Contact Information:
Phone: (662) 325-0403
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Person: **Dr. Andrew Mercer**
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