Peter Ball

peter.ball@mail.mcgill.ca | Phone: (506) 259-4699 | website

Skills:

- Languages: Python, SQL, Java, C, Clojure; Technology: git, linux, pandas, MySQL
- data science, data engineering, web scraping, web design, natural language processing
- Strong writing skills, rigorous research ethic, confident public speaker, bilingual (English, French)

Relevant Coursework: COMP 551 Applied Machine Learning; COMP 421 Database Systems; COMP 598 Intro to Data Science (ongoing); COMP 550 Natural Language Processing (ongoing); MATH 323 Probability; COMP 445 Computational Linguistics; COMP 251 Algorithms and Data Structures

Education:

McGill University, Montreal, QC

2017-Present

- U3 Bachelor of Arts, double major Computer Science & English (Cultural Studies)
- Dean's Honour List; CGPA 3.67, 2019-20 GPA 3.93 (out of 4)
- Awards: 2019 CSCDS Seed Grant; 2020 Arts Research Internship Award; Elsie Redford Scholarship

Fredericton High School, Fredericton, NB

2013-2017

- Graduated with Honours (96% Average); studied majority of subjects in French immersion
- Received Charles G.D. Roberts medal for best literary essay in school district

Projects:

Arts Research Internship: Computational Modelling of Narrative in Protest Coverage (2020)

*Apply the Hidden Markov Model to the study of protester-police interactions as depicted in news coverage over the past 6 years. Supervised by professors at McGill and Carnegie Mellon. Python, SQL, C.

McGill Text Lab: Queer Dynamics in Fan Fiction (2019-20)

*A project applying machine learning techniques to the large-scale analysis of fanfic website Archive of Our Own, specifically investigating representations of queerness in the textual space. Python.

Work Experience:

McGill Text Lab: Research Assistant, summer 2019 - Present:

- Led the conceptualization and execution of two research projects; building my own data pipelines, running statistical tests and training models on the data, and communicating results
- Applied web scraping and data engineering skills to produce a high-quality, reliable dataset for collaborative project with professors from Mcgill and Duke Universities

McGill Tribune Web Developer, 2018-2019

- Create weekly personalized websites under strict time limits for featured articles
- Sole developer on the 2019 Journalism Conference website; implemented a more modern and mobile-friendly design as compared to previous years

Creative Collective Vision: Camp Councilor (Summer 2018, Montreal)

• Taught film techniques and supervised the creation of films by children ages 5-13.