

Common App Essay

Jazmaine Requeña

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Prof. Carmen Bucher

IDH1002

Supplemental Prompt

I am a hard-working student who is determined to transfer to the University of Central Florida (UCF) and major in Information Technology (IT). I first became interested in IT because my father was an IT professional, and I've always enjoyed watching him fix computers and their systems. This led me to enroll in Miami Lakes Educational Center's IT Academy to learn more, specifically about networking, and that's when I decided that this is what I want to do for my future; I want to develop IT-based solutions for the environment, economy, and society.

Currently, I am a student at Miami Dade College Honors College, and I decided to enroll there to better prepare myself before I transfer to a 4-year university. One of the MDC student organizations I have joined is INIT. INIT is a non-profit organization that empowers under-represented communities to launch successful careers in technology. I became involved with INIT after participating in their Web Development and Technical Interview workshops and enlisted to become an executive board member as the director of marketing. One of the projects I am doing with INIT is designing a website for the MDC North Campus career closet. That website will have a database of the different clothes offered, as well as different resources about the career closet, and make it more available to the public. UCF has clubs and organizations with a similar mission as INIT, like the Society for the Advancement of Minorities in STEM, and I would like to be a part of those to work on projects that would help the community. I could also help steamroll an INIT chapter at UCF since there is not one there yet.

I am also a part of the Growth Sector Summer Bridge program. This program gives opportunities and aid to community college students who are entering STEM fields. Growth

Sector has provided me with a mentor, whom I speak with every month, and she matched me for a summer research internship at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA). During this internship, I will be focusing on the current technologies including machine learning, generative AI, and virtual/mixed/augmented reality (VR/XR/AR). I will also be receiving hands-on experiences in workshops hosted by the graduate students at CSULA. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and I hope when I transfer to UCF, I will be able to have more internship opportunities to add to my current successes.

I am transferring because all Honors College students must transfer. After all, this is a two-year institution, but I am confident in my growth as a student to be a great match for UCF. I have overcome the fixed mindset that I developed in high school and learned to become a more flexible student in terms of academics and extracurriculars. I am ready to transfer, and I will pursue Information Technology at UCF to gain more experience and improve my technical skills. After receiving my education there, I envision developing IT-based solutions and utilizing my skills in a challenging enterprise.