# **ROSS THORN**

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#### **EDUCATION, HONORS & AWARDS:**

University of Wisconsin - Madison Master of Science Madison, WI Anticipated May 2018

**GIS** and Cartography

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point (UWSP)

Stevens Point, WI

May 2016

Bachelor of Science – *summa cum laude*Major: GEOGRAPHY, emphasis GIS/Spatial Analysis

Major: GEOSCIENCE, emphasis Hydrogeology

# Geography and Geology Dept. Academic Honor Award (UWSP)

May 2016

- Awarded to graduating senior with highest GPA in the department

# Dean's Distinguished Achievement Award (UWSP)

April 2016

- Awarded to graduating senior who displays high academic achievement

## Phi Kappa Phi Member

November 2015

- Offered to select undergraduate seniors that are in the top 10% of class

## Raymond and Ellen Specht Cartography Scholarship (UWSP)

May 2014

- Awarded for demonstrating potential for excellence in the field of cartography

#### **GIS EXPERIENCE:**

**UWSP Small Business Development Center** 

Stevens Point, WI

#### **GIS MAPPING TECHNICIAN**

January 2014 – Present l businesses for the

- Gather data from online sources to create maps for small businesses for the purpose of optimizing business performance and development  $\,$
- Communicate efficiently with supervisor to better understand clients' needs and produce maps to meet those needs in a timely manner  $\,$
- Use ArcMap, Business Analyst, Microsoft Excel, and Adobe Illustrator to compile and present data in an aesthetically pleasing product

UWSP Department of Geology/Geography

Stevens Point, WI

# STUDENT GRADER - FUNDAMENTALS OF GIS

February 2015 - Present

- Assess students' GIS and mapmaking abilities based on cartographic principles
- Communicate with supervisor to ensure consistent and accurate assessment
- Complete tasks in a timely manner to ensure students have time to review feedback before being tested on the material

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Madison, WI

# **PROJECT ASSISTANT**

September 2016 – Present

- Collaborating with experts from various fields of study to improve on an existing mobile app designed for geologic educational outreach
- Analyzing existing paleoecological data visualizations to identify advantages and shortcomings in those visualizations
- Implementing analysis findings to develop and integrate a mobile-friendly visualization technique for large datasets of multivariate, spatiotemporal data

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Stevens Point, WI

### PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR

September 2015 - May 2016

- Built an augmented reality sandbox and created a survey to gauge student interpretation of contour maps
- Wrote detailed proposals for funding and IRB approval that included methodology, relevant scholarship, and importance of the research
- Recruited student participants in accordance with IRB regulations
- Analyzed and presented results of research in UW-System symposium and UW-Stevens Point symposium

#### **OTHER EXPERIENCE:**

UWSP Residential Living

Stevens Point, WI

## **COMMUNITY ADVISOR (CA)**

January 2014 - May 2015

- Communicated and collaborated with fellow staff members to create a cohesive residence hall
- Worked 10 20 hours/week while a fulltime student

#### SPECIAL SKILLS:

- Proficiency in ESRI products, including ArcMap, ArcCatalog, Business Analyst
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office products including Excel, Word, PowerPoint
- Experienced with GIS processes like Geodatabase creation and maintenance, Raster Overlay, Terrain Modeling, Vector Analyses, Raster Analyses
- Experienced with Adobe Illustrator and Adobe PhotoShop
- Experienced with Python programming, HTML, and CSS
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Great eye for detail
- Outstanding work ethic
- Ability to work independently or as a part of a team
- Strong desire for learning about and teaching cartography