Sameel Syed

New York, New York

Email | LinkedIn | GitHub | Portfolio

EDUCATION

BA in Computer Science and Neuroscience *(GPA: 3.86)*   May 2024
Skidmore College   *Saratoga Springs, NY*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant   Spring 2022
Vecsey Lab   *Saratoga Springs, NY*
- Designed a proposal to determine/quantify the effect of vibrational stimulation on the sleep of *Drosophila Melanogaster*.
- Collaborated with other lab members to prep for and carry out experiments.

Exploratory Researcher   Fall 2022
Peterson Research Group   *Saratoga Springs, NY*
- Discussed research trends and recent publications on the spread of misinformation online, particularly focusing on the psychology of fake news throughout the 2016 election and COVID-19 pandemic.
- Designed a proposal for an independent study on practices regarding the spread of misinformation within college students.

PROJECTS

- Implemented chess bots in python using reinforcement learning (SARSA) and a backtracking algorithm (minmax with alpha-beta pruning) and designed/implemented a digital interface to interact with the engines.
- Collaborated with a partner to implement and design a note storage app for IOS called Summarize that generates and stores summaries based on speech or text input.
- Analyzed data on heart disease in the United States to generate a linear classification model that predicted heart disease diagnoses based on resting BP, age, cholesterol, and chest pain.
- Implemented a Java program that simulates forest fires using cellular automata modeling.
- Analyzed customer and campaign data on Brazil's leading fast food delivery company, iFood, using Excel, to generate proposals for business growth and improvements in advertising campaigns.
- Explored data from the Massachusetts Department of Education to design an intuitive dashboard and visualizations that report on trends within the state's educational landscape.
- Investigated the optogenetic inhibition of locomotion in wild type and Vglut-GAL4 x UAS-GtACR1 *drosophila melanogaster* larvae in reaction to varying intensities of green light.
- Conducted an electrophysiological study of proprioceptive systems within crayfish in response to varying degrees of stretch in the tail.

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Davis Scholarship
- $25000 per annum from 2020 – 2024.

All College Honors
- Graduated *Magna Cum Laude.*

Dean's List
- Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023.

Phi Beta Kappa Society
- Inducted into the society in May 2024.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Middle School Math Teacher   September 2024 – Present
Rockaway Park Middle School   *Queens, NY*
- Collaborate with grade team to modify/implement lesson plans and curriculum for **7th Grade** and **8th Grade** students.
- Teach **1** class of **7th Grade Math** and **2** classes of **8th Grae Math**, altogether teaching **79** students.
- Prepared **8th Grade** students for **State Math Regents Examination** through tutoring and the creation of study guides/exam prep materials.
- Serve as advisor to **9** students, this involves parent outreach and individual student assessment/aid to ensure each advisee's specific educational needs are catered for.

Data Analytics Intern/Volunteer   `   June 2024 – August 2024
Snow Data Science   *Houston, Texas | Remote*
- Generated custom visuals and dashboards, using Tableau, to communicate relevant industry sales narratives.
- Analyzed consumer trends to create reports on customer segmentation and marketing strategies for clients.

Catering Supervisor   September 2021 – May 2024
Skidmore College   *Saratoga Springs, NY*
- Collaborated with management to organize and plan events and helped organize employee teams for events.
- Trained new employees in the functioning of basic equipment; explained SOP's; and communicated policies.
- Interviewed candidates for catering positions.

SERVICE

Volunteer Teacher   January 2017 - November 2017
Waterford Pre-School   *Mbabane, Eswatini*
- Taught basic Math and English to preschool students from low-income families.
- Organized and planned lessons for effective learning, this incorporated both traditional and non-traditional methods of teaching such as through short games and storytelling.

Volunteer Staff   January 2019 - November 2019, June 2021 – August 2021
SAWS (AWARE)   *Mbabane, Eswatini*

- Socialized stray and abused dogs to improve adoption rates.
- Ensured that the physical and emotional needs of the animals were being met.
- Collaborated with the national department of veterinary services to organize and carry out spay clinics.
- Assisted vets during surgery by suturing incisions, monitoring vitals pre- and post-surgery, and administering vaccines.
- Conducted community outreach in coordination with other volunteers to raise awareness about proper animal care, vaccination, and the importance of spaying/neutering.