Thomas P. Curran

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Research Interests

I am interested in the applications of machine learning and artificial intelligence in complex systems. I am particularly interested in using reinforcement learning algorithms in intelligent learning environments to personalize student learning experiences and assist teachers with socio-emotional learning. Additionally, I am interested in using artificial intelligence algorithms in educational video games and other interactive media.

Education

University of Chicago   2016 - 2018

- Master of Public Policy (MPP)
- Graduate Certificate in Computational Social Science
    - <u>Capstone Paper</u>: *Using Neural Networks and Support Vector Machines to Predict School Performance in Oklahoma*
- Graduate Certificate in Survey Research Methods

Stonehill College   2007 - 2011

- Bachelor of Arts, English Language, and Literature

Professional Positions

Data Scientist   2018 - Present
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative: Education Initiative
- Conduct rigorous research and program evaluation of the Summit Learning platform's products and services to assess the impact on student and teacher outcomes.

Data Scientist   2015 - 2018
Oklahoma Public School Resource Center (OPSRC)
- Collected, managed, and analyzed data to support OPSRC's mission of improving education through policy throughout Oklahoma, especially concerning school funding policies.

Research Positions

Graduate Research Assistant 2017 - 2018
NORC Center of Excellence in Survey Research
- Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Rupa Datta, assisting her as Principal Investigator for the National Survey for Early Care and Education.

Summer Intern 2017
NORC
- Assisted Principal Investigator with developing a sample frame for surveys assessing the accessibility of child care facilities in rural communities.
- Wrote web scrapers to collect, clean, and manage unstructured data.

Teaching Positions

Teaching Assistant, Crime Prevention 2018
Prof. Jens Ludwig, University of Chicago
- Held weekly office hours and review sessions on class materials for students.
- Graded papers, homework, and assessments.

Tutor 2017 - 2018
R Bar
- Held weekly workshops for teaching R to graduate students.
- Developed teaching materials in parallel with core MPP curriculum to support graduate students implementing class content using R.

8th Grade Science 2013 - 2015
Roosevelt Middle School, Oklahoma City Public Schools (OKCPS)
- Developed an assessment tracking tool to improve teaching and target specific content for appropriate scaffolding.
- Represented eighth-grade science on OKCPS Curriculum Transition committee from old state standards to new Next Generation Science Standards.
- Selected by the State Department of Education for OK-SCI Leadership class.

Corps Member 2013 - 2015
Teach For America

Professional Membership(s)

- International Educational Data Mining Society
- The International Artificial Intelligence in Education Society (IAIED)
- Americorps Alumni
- Teach For America Alumni

Fellowships & Awards

- Segal Education Service Award, 2015
- Segal Education Service Award, 2014
- Leadership for Educational Equity Summer Policy & Advocacy Fellowship. 2014

Additional Training and Coursework

Oregon State University   2020
- Computer Science Coursework: Introduction to Computer Science I (CS161), Introduction to Computer Science II (CS162)
- Mathematics: Differential Calculus (MTH251), Elements of Discrete Mathematics (MTH231

Becker Friedman Institute for Economics Open Source Macroeconomics Laboratory Bootcamp   2018
- Underwent training in advanced mathematics and economics theory to conduct public policy and economic analysis using open-source computational tools and frameworks.

Additional Positions Held

Marketing Coordinator   2012 - 2013
Cartera Commerce, Inc.
- Managed and analyzed marketing databases for developing the content strategy across products and assisted in lead generation strategies.

Member Services Representative   2011 - 2012
Cartera Commerce, Inc.
- Managed customer relationships and resolved customer-facing technical issues to improve the product experience for customers.

References

Gian Gonzaga
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James Saxon
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