

# Zachary A. Sayers

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## EDUCATION

**University of Florida**— Gainesville, FL

Expected May 2026

*Bachelor of Science in Information Systems*

**Relevant coursework:** Programming Fundamentals 1 & 2, Discrete Structures, Financial & Managerial Accounting, Micro & Macro Economics, Principles of Management, Principles of Marketing, Statistics

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Programming Languages:** Python, C++, JavaScript, HTML & CSS

**Certifications:** 2024 CodePath Intro to Cybersecurity, 2024 NVIDIA Fundamentals of Deep Learning, 2021 HTML and CSS MTA Certificate, 2022 Windows Operating System Fundamentals, 2022 Intuit QuickBooks Online Certified User

**Software:** Jupyter Notebook, PyCharm, Visual Studio Code, CLion, Git and GitHub, Microsoft Office 365

## EXPERIENCE

**Florida Community Innovation – Software Engineering Intern** | Gainesville, FL

October 2024 – Present

- Contributing to the development of the Florida Resource Map website, an online tool that provides easy access to essential resources for vulnerable and at-risk communities across Florida.

**UF Data Studio Lab - Undergraduate Research Assistant** | Gainesville, FL

May 2023 – Present

- Conducting fine-tuning procedures on the Whisper automatic speech recognition model to enhance its transcription capabilities for diverse English variations, including African American Language and Indian English.
- Acquiring comprehensive proficiency in constructing intricate deep learning models and gaining expertise in the end-to-end process of data collection and preprocessing, essential for training AI models.
- Coded a dynamic web scraper using Selenium, optimizing data extraction from complex and ever-changing websites.

**University of Florida RecSports – Official and Scorekeeper** | Gainesville, FL

June 2022 – September 2022

- Officiated and kept score of intramural basketball and flag football games, ensuring fair play, rules adherence, and a safe competitive environment for all participants.

## PROJECTS

**SPICEASR: Speech Processing for Inclusive Community Experiences in Automatic Speech Recognition**

- Utilizing Nvidia's "HiPerGator" supercomputer, I am actively involved in the fine-tuning process of OpenAI's Whisper model, enhancing its performance on the Corpus of Regional African American Language dataset (CORAAL).
- Transformed 271 interviews into 300,000 audio segments and cleaned the raw CORAAL transcripts, optimizing the training data for finetuning an AI model and facilitating performance evaluation.

## LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**National Society of Black Engineers** | Finance Chair | Gainesville FL

May 2024 – Present

- Securing funding from corporate sponsors through strategic outreach and personalized correspondence, so far raising over \$15,000 to support chapter activities.
- Developing and executing innovative fundraising initiatives to support chapter activities and programs.
- Communicating with corporate sponsors to secure their attendance at our networking and on-campus events.

**Management Leadership for Tomorrow** | SWE Career Prep Fellow | Bethesda, MD

October 2023 – Present

- Accepted into a selective 18-month professional development program for high-achieving diverse talent.
- Completed business case studies and assignments to grow leadership and technical skills.

**Progressive Black Men, Inc.** | Public Relations Chair | Gainesville, FL

June 2023 – May 2024

- Managed the organization's website and Instagram, growing our 2,000+ followers with engaging event flyers and consistent communication.