Abbie M. Popa, ScB

UC Davis Neuroscience Graduate Group

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EDUCATION

PhD University of California at Davis   (September 2012 - June 2018)
Dissertation: Behavior and EEG Testing of Teen Anxiety
Data Science Initiative Affiliation
Honors ScB., Brown University   (September 2006-December 2010)
Major: Cognitive Neuroscience

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

UC Davis MIND Institute   Sacramento, CA
PhD Researcher   September 2012 - present
- Developed 6 child-friendly computerized behavior tests (disguised as games)
- Used k-means clustering, ICA, and mixed effects linear modeling to pull signal from noisy brain and behavioral data using R, Python, and Matlab
- Trained and mentored four junior research assistants and seven volunteer interns
- Resulted in 4 manuscripts, 5 international conference oral presentations and 13 international conference poster presentations
- Received 3 travel awards in recognition of my work

Davis Incubator Group   Student organized group at UC Davis
President   September 2016 - present
Member   January - August 2016
- Completed 3 team data science competitions, finished in the top 10% for one competition
- Developed individual projects using tools including sklearn in Python, and nnet in R
- Organized and scheduled meetings for a group of 6-8 data scientists to practiced coding, machine learning, and share data science skills

UC Davis Data Science Initiative   Davis, CA
Affiliate   April 2016 - present
- Contributed to a collaborative reading groups on *Think Python* and *An Introduction to Statistical Learning* with implementation of exercises and labs
- Consulted with members of the UC Davis community on data science problems from twitter scraping to genomics as part of team un-seminars

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Neurobiology
Dr. Lee M. Miller UC Davis Department of Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior, Davis CA
Teaching Assistant   April 2015-June 2015
- Planned 9 weeks of discussion sections with 2 co-TAs. Prepared material for an hour of homework review, practice problems, and discussion of lecture material and readings.
- Independently led 3 one-hour discussion sections for a total of 75 students each week.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Intertational Rescue Committee   Sacramento, CA
Refugee Empowerment Volunteer   January 2017 - October 2017
- Assisted recent refugees to the United States in preparing resumes and job applications
- Helped organize the first cohort of Women's Empowerment Programming, including survey design, focus group summary, and working with the women in the program

Explorations, UC Davis Undergraduate Research Journal   Davis, CA
Editor   February 2015 - August 2015
Managing Editor, Physical and Life Sciences   September 2015 - June 2017
- Managed reviews and edits of student submissions to a yearly UC Davis publication

Neuroscience Initiative to Enhance Diversity Davis, CA
Student Organizer Event held April 2016
- Organized event that recruits 25 undergraduates from historically black and Hispanic serving colleges to increase representation in PhD programs
- Coordinated 10 workshops led by faculty and students

UC Davis Student Community Center Davis, CA
Women in Science and Engineering Mentor September 2015 - June 2017 *The Graduate*
Academic Achievement and Advocacy Program Mentor September 2013 - June 2015
- Mentored 2 undergraduate students

- Planned and ran workshops for women and underrepresented minorities on topics including graduate school applications, research assistantships, and gap years

Graduate Student Assembly Davis, CA
Departmental Representative September 2013 - June 2015
- Attended meetings and voted on policy affecting graduate students at UC Davis and in the wider UC graduate student assembly

- Publicized information to graduate group