

# Alexander Caceres-Wright

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## EDUCATION

**Master of Science: Computer Science and Engineering, University at Buffalo (SUNY)**, Buffalo, New York, June 2024

**Bachelor of Arts: Cognitive Systems, University of British Columbia**, Vancouver, Canada, May 2022

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant, cUBe Lab at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. June 2023 – Present**

- Constructed tools for stance detection using Large Language Models applied to 15 million tweets from the 2020 US Presidential Election. Ran experiments to evaluate LLM prompts and parameters.
- Published peer-reviewed paper: A. Caceres-Wright et al., “Explicit Stance Detection in the Political Domain: A New Concept and Associated Dataset”, SBP-BRiMS 2024. **Runner Up: Best Student-Led Paper Award**
- Presented peer-reviewed poster: A. Caceres-Wright, G. Bunn, S. Shuster, and K. Joseph, “Who supports Bernie? Analyzing identity and ideological variation of Bernie supporters on Twitter”, IC2S2 2024.
- Investigating how individuals express identity online and how those who share identities speak about shared topics

**Data Analyst (Intern), s-cubed Strategic Sustainability Solutions Ltd, New York, NY, September 2024 – June 2025**

- Developing financial models critical to initial product launch at an early stage startup to study corporate resilience
- Established dataset of corporate financial data with quality controls to facilitate model development and testing
- Ran statistical analysis on financial data of 1.4 million companies from 124 different countries to guide product design

**Student Assistant, X-Lab at the University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. June 2023 – August 2023**

- Researched and developed indices of interdisciplinarity using natural language processing
- Completed a literature search aiming to incorporate best previous results into our index

**Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC. January 2020 – December 2020**

- Duties included running labs, holding office hours, and grading assignments and exams
- Mentored roughly 30 students per semester as they worked on a term-long project. Helped guide design and implementation, and helped debug issues, through weekly 1:1 meetings

## PROJECTS

**Museum Interactive Scavenger Hunt.** Python, Flask, Firebase Realtime Database, Javascript, CSS

- Implemented a full-stack application for the Niagara Aerospace Museum for visitors to complete a scavenger hunt
- Allows curators to enter or edit clues and exhibits, and visitors to customize the length and difficulty of their hunt

**Financial Literacy Application: UB Hacking: Fall 2022 (Hackathon, 1st Place).** SQL, JavaFX

- Won first place prize with a prototype JavaFX application aimed at centralizing financial information new immigrants may find useful, such as on banking, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), housing, etc.
- Prompted users with a questionnaire to tailor information they were presented. Stored survey responses in a MySQL database along with a username and password for later retrieval

**Research in Cognitive Systems.** Python, Git, oTree, R

- Worked as a research assistant in a psychology laboratory programming a variation of the public goods game using the oTree framework
- Utilized this software to collect data and wrote a report of the findings in context of relevant work

## SKILLS & TOOLS

**Large Language Models:** Llama, BERT

**Data Management & Analytics:** SQL, R, PostgreSQL, PGAdmin4, Firebase Realtime Database, Pyspark

**Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C++, C, Haskell, JavaScript

**Tools:** Git, Jupyter, Visual Studio, LaTeX, JetBrains Suite, JUnit Testing, Flask, Pandas, Matplotlib

**Languages:** English (Fluent), Spanish (Fluent)

## RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Applied Machine Learning; Computational Investment; Computational Linguistics; Data Models and Query Languages; Databases in Data Science; Operating Systems; Modern Network Concepts; Computer Security; Introduction to Artificial Intelligence; Software Construction; Basic Algorithms and Data Structures

## AWARDS & INVOLVEMENT

**Runner Up: Best Student-Led Paper Award.** SBP-BRiMS, September 18–20, 2024

**Summer School on Foundations of Data Science.** Bryn Mawr College, June 27–28, 2023

**Bloomberg Accelerator Summer School.** Virtual, June 2023

**First Place Prize, M&T Bank’s An Innovative Way to Promote Financial Understanding and Well Being Award.** UB Hacking: Fall 2022 (Hackathon). November 5–6, 2022

**Outstanding International Student Award.** University of British Columbia. Academic Year 2017–2018

**Second Degree Black Belt, Kyokushin Karate.** Ken Wa Kan Karate, New York City. Achieved March 15, 2015