

# Alaina McKnight

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## Educational Background

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### Old Dominion University

May 2025

Master of Science

Major: Data Science and Analytics

Concentration: Business Intelligence & Analytics

### University of South Carolina Upstate

May 2023

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Minor in Business and Entrepreneurship

- Dean's List: 7 Semesters
- USC Upstate Provost Scholarship Recipient

**Courses:** **IT 650:** Database Management Systems, **BNAL 503:** Data Visualization and Exploration, **CS 624:** Data Analytics and Big Data, **IT 651:** Business Intelligence, **STAT 603:** Statistical/Probability Models for Data Science, **BNAL 515:** Advanced Business Analytics with Big Data Applications, **FINA 363:** Business Finance, **MATH 354:** Real Analysis

### Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia Rouse-Bottom Fellowship

Engaged in research and long-term ecological data collection and analysis that can be directly used to better manage and protect the Reserve's natural resources. **2024 - Present**

### Division I Student-Athlete

Old Dominion University Women's Soccer Team-member, **2023-2024**

University of South Carolina Upstate Women's Soccer Team-member, **2019-2023**

## Experience

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### Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

*Graduate Assistant for Testing & Assessment, Office of Educational Accessibility, Aug 2024 – Present*

- Received, prepared, and secured exams and accompanying instructions while ensuring confidentiality and the integrity of testing materials
- Coordinated the conversion of materials into accessible formats, including enlargements and alternate file types, to provide equal access for students with disabilities
- Provided and assisted with consistent implementation of testing accommodations, working collaboratively with professors to meet student needs
- Proctored and administered accommodated exams to ensure compliance with accommodation guidelines
- Trained, scheduled, and supervised student staff working within the OEA Testing Center, ensuring proper procedures are followed and operations run smoothly

## **University of South Carolina Upstate, Spartanburg, SC**

### **Academic Tutor, Jan 2023 - May 2023**

- Provided academic support and guidance to college students in various math and business courses
- Conducted one-on-one tutoring sessions to clarify concepts, review assignments, and improve study skills
- Assisted students in understanding complex course material and preparing for exams
- Monitored student progress and adjusted tutoring techniques accordingly to ensure academic success
- Collaborated with faculty and staff to identify areas of improvement and develop targeted tutoring strategies
- Utilized effective communication and interpersonal skills to build rapport and motivate students

## **Branscome Incorporated, Williamsburg, VA**

### **Project Management Intern, Summer 2022**

- Assisted project managers in preparing and maintaining project timecards using construction software such as HeavyJob
- Conducted site visits to assess construction progress and ensure compliance with project plans and specifications
- Prepared and reviewed project documentation including requests for information, change orders, and submittals
- Trained in project cost tracking and budget management, including analyzing job cost reports and creating cost forecasts
- Participated in project meetings and prepared meeting minutes to ensure all parties were informed and up-to-date on project progress

### **Estimating Intern, Summer 2021**

- Contributed to the preparation of cost estimates for construction projects, including performing quantity takeoffs, analyzing construction plans and specifications, and researching material and labor costs
- Worked closely with senior estimators to prepare and submit bids and proposals for new construction projects
- Reviewed subcontractor bids and proposals to ensure compliance with project requirements and budget constraints
- Utilized construction estimating software such as Planswift and Bluebeam to prepare and analyze cost estimates

## **Technical Skills**

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### **Statistical Programming Skills**

**Python:** Efficient in data cleaning, processing, analysis, modeling, visualization, and web scraping using libraries such as Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Vega-Altair, Scikit-Learn, and Natural Language Processing tools.

**R:** Proficient in statistical testing methods, including experimental design and hypothesis testing.

**Business Intelligence and Visualization:** IBM SPSS Modeler, Tableau.

**Machine Learning:** Supervised Learning: Linear Regression, Logistic Regression, Decision Tree, Gradient Boosting, Random Forest, SVM, KNN. Unsupervised Learning: Principal Component Analysis (PCA), Clustering.

**Database Management and Big Data Tools:** SQL (Data Manipulation and Data Definition Language). Experience with distributed computing tools such as Hadoop, Hive, and Apache Spark.