

1. Name (first and last)

Text Response

Craig Morton

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

2. VT Email

Text Response

mcraig4@vt.edu

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

3. Contact Phone

Text Response

5712716827

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

4. Essay (up to 500 words): "What do you want to get out of this experience?"

Text Response

This summer opportunity in Data Science through the Biocomplexity Institute offers a wide variety of benefits to the students who complete this program. There are many benefits that are outlined in the program overview that I will briefly discuss, but I believe there is much more that I can gain from this program. In school the only projects that we really work on are with other people that are in the same discipline. This program would allow me to work with other students in many other disciplines, which will help me broaden my scope and also help me work with people who are not necessarily similar to me. A huge benefit students here at Virginia Tech have is the massive amount of alumni that we can network and form professional connections with. This program will allow me to even further develop professional connections, especially with the laboratory's location close to Washington, DC. For a student who wants to work within the government, this is a great opportunity. In addition, there are also many technical attributes this opportunity will allow me to gain. The program specifies use of Python and GIS applications which will allow me the opportunity to have hands on experience with developing spatial data. This would be over and above what I would have access to in the classroom. Aside from the specific tools listed above, and as I said before, being able to understand and compute data is important for my undergraduate studies. The projects we work on in school mostly provide the data to us in a condensed and organized manner which is not necessarily what happens in the real world. I am looking forward to this program teaching me how to attain large data, analyze it, and then compute it in a way to get the desired result. Also listed on the program details are some other tools and software that I have not used in my studies, so this program would help me broaden my technical capabilities. Last but not least, there are poster presentations and technical reports that need to be conducted and written, so this program would allow me to improve my public speaking and writing skills.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

5. Essay (up to 500 words): "Please describe any previous research experience and/or work experience you may have."

Text Response

I do not have any research experience outside of what I have done in school. I have written some research papers throughout high school and college, but have never been involved on a research team or conducted a research project. However, I do have some work experience. I worked while in high school, had a summer job after my freshman year of college, and then an internship after my sophomore year of college. In high school, I had a typical teenage job of working at a pizza place delivering pizzas, being a cashier, and washing dishes. From this experience, I learned the responsibilities that came with a job. For example, showing up on time, working hard and not getting distracted, balancing work with my school and sports, and then being able to work with many different groups of people. There were many people with vastly different backgrounds, so I had to acclimate myself to be respectful to everyone. The summer after my freshman year of college, I worked for a construction company as a laborer. I would perform whatever tasks the foreman would tell me needed to be done that day. The main trait this experience taught me was the notion of not going home till the job gets done. The hours were long, and the work was hard, but in construction there are timelines that needed to be met, and failure to meet them meant that money would be lost. Similar to my high school experience, there were many people from different backgrounds, and even some that spoke almost no English, so I had to learn how to communicate with people through that language barrier. The last job I had was an internship last summer with a civil engineering company, Timmons Group. They have many different departments and I was assigned to the GIS department. This was the first time I experienced a professional working environment, so I learned how to navigate the office space in terms of communication and work ethic. More importantly, this was the first time I worked in an office environment with more technical aspects such as large datasets. As I said in the last essay, it was not the nice, structured data that I was used to seeing in the classroom setting. In this internship, the projects we were assigned were all in a team setting, so I had to work efficiently with my peers. I also had to learn how to communicate properly with the professionals in my field, and form valuable networks.

Statistic

Total Responses

Value

1

6. In Fall 2017 you will consider yourself to be a:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Freshmen Undergraduate Student		0	0%
2	Sophomore Undergraduate Student		0	0%
3	Junior Undergraduate Student		0	0%
4	Senior Undergraduate Student		1	100%
	Total		1	

Statistic	Value
Min Value	4
Max Value	4
Mean	4.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	1

7. What degree(s) and major(s) are you pursuing?

Text Response
Geography

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	1

8. List any Minors you are pursuing.

Text Response

Geographic Information Science and National Security and Foreign Affairs

Statistic

Total Responses	Value
1	1

9. List any honors and/or awards received:

Text Response

Dean's List every semester

Statistic

Total Responses	Value
1	1

10. Please indicate which position you are interested in:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	For pay		1	100%
2	For VT credit (you are responsible for contacting your department to obtain advisor approval for research credit. This form should be submitted to BI once you have been matched.)		0	0%
3	either for pay or VT credit		0	0%
	Total		1	

Statistic

Min Value	Value
1	1

Max Value	Value
1	1

Mean	Value
1.00	1.00

Variance	Value
0.00	0.00

Standard Deviation	Value
0.00	0.00

Total Responses	Value
1	1

11. Please rank in order of preference which labs you are interested in: