

Fauna Mahootian

135 W. 238th St., Apt. 5E, New York, NY 10463 • flm45@cornell.edu • 602-680-9477

EDUCATION:

Cornell University, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY
Major: B.Sc., Human Behavior and Information Science - *Interdisciplinary Studies Program*
Minor: Environment and Sustainability Sciences, GPA: 3.64

May 2019

RELEVANT COURSEWORK:

Object-Oriented Programming • Functional Programming • Discrete Structures • Intro to Statistics • Calculus 1 • Linear Algebra • Data Science • Data Visualization • Crowdsourcing and Human Computation • Info Tech for Management

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

Topic Modeling and Corpus Search Research Assistant

September 2018 - present

Cornell University Dept. of Computer and Info Science, advised by Xanda Schofield & Dr. David Mimno, Ithaca, NY

- Created a search tool for sociologists to quickly find documents about their topic of interest from a large corpus
- Read literature on LDA topic modeling, reimplemented old project code, optimized threshold criteria for search
- Analyzed and improved the efficacy of topic proportion thresholds in identifying relevant subset of corpus, using Bayesian optimization. Programming language: Python

Hunter Lab, University of Michigan

October 2015 - April 2016

Employed by the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, supervised by Amanda Meier

- Investigated the effect of colonization by arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF) on plant defenses in four species of milkweed. Prepared and collected data by staining and mounting roots on slides, weighing biomasses, isolating cardenolides, counting trichomes.
- Statistical analysis carried out using R - Anova tests, results presented at annual undergrad research symposium

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Program Evaluation Consultant

January 2019

Crescendo, Montreal, Canada

- Bootstrapped program evaluation metric and developed assessment method (survey) for a software development startup creating a Slack bot for continual diversity and inclusion education in the workplace
- Rapidly learned about program evaluation through lit review and implemented findings in survey instrument design
- Independently structured own time to deliver product efficiently by end of two-week internship

Sustainability and Humanitarian Outreach Chair

September 2018 - December 2018

Von Cramm Cooperative (residence), Ithaca, NY

- Implemented several projects, including creation of waste signage, monitoring and recording air quality, to improve health of residents and surrounding environment by promoting both institutional and individual behavioral change
- Formalized the structure of the SHOC position, as the first coop member to hold it (managerial, executive)
- Developed time tracking and scheduling techniques to support duties

Designer and Strategist

September 2017 - May 2018

Design Connect Program, Cornell University Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Ithaca, NY

- Collaborated with a team of planning students on two projects: to organize an event that invited civic engagement in planning of a public space, and to create a guidebook on tactical placemaking customized to the county
- Planned event space setup, ideated interactive survey methods
- Showed initiative in creating guidebook logos. Conducted site evaluations. Researched and wrote about tactics

Community Engagement and Collaborative Habitat Restoration Research Assistant

June 2017 - July 2017

Niigata University Prof. Mitsuyo Toyoda, Sado Island, Japan

- Engaged Sado Island community by assisting professor Toyoda with coordinating community events
- Attended meetings and gatherings; through experiences, learned about fostering community dialogue, communicating between different stakeholder groups, matching community with resources necessary to complete their goals (e.g. habitat restoration), promoting ecosystem-friendly farming using eco-certification

SKILLS: Languages: Python, Java, Javascript • Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint • Adobe Illustrator, Indesign, Photoshop