
JUSTIN R. HADDAD

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EDUCATION

Columbia University - 3.9/4.0 GPA (All Academic, Scholar of Distinction, Dean's List)

Bachelor of Arts: Majors - Mathematics & Computer Science

Captain of Division 1 Fencing Team

New York, NY

Sep 2021 - May 2025

Spring 2023 - Spring 2025

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fulbright Scholar ETA

English Teaching Assistant

South Korea

January-December 2026

- Teaching conversational English to hundreds of South Korean grade-school aged students in rural Korea
- Leading classes, writing lesson plans, and organizing after-school clubs to help improve student fluency and confidence
- Acting as a cultural ambassador as part of the 2026 Fulbright cohort, improving my cross cultural communication and leadership skills

Knowalla

Ed-Tech Software Engineering Intern

Remote

Spring 2025

- Designed and implemented a new evaluation framework that improved the accuracy of Knowalla's solver faithfulness testing from 36-60% to 78-93%, ensuring more reliable and factually consistent responses for students.
- Identified key weaknesses in the existing faithfulness testing pipeline and introduced quantitative benchmarks, leading to a more robust assessment of AI-generated solutions.

Columbia University Computer Science Department

Teaching Assistant/Course Assistant for Fundamentals of Computer Systems (CSEE 3827)

New York, NY

Fall 2024

- Acted as a Teaching Assistant for a required course of over 350 students for the Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Electrical Engineering Majors at Columbia University and Barnard College
- Led review sessions, graded assignments, and help office hours consistently helping improve dozens of students understanding of the basic systems that make up every computer chip

Columbia University Math Department

Student Researcher

New York, NY

Summer 2023

- Conducted research on the application of Game Theory and Reinforcement Learning to trade negotiations, creating machine learning agents from scratch which could be used to sell products at a higher price in an online setting
- Combined statistical, programming, and mathematical skills learned in academic settings to apply them to practical and hands-on situations, creating both heuristic and RL algorithms that outperformed standard strategies by +25%.
- Co-authored a 15 page research paper, bi-weekly progress report presentations, and presented the research at the Columbia Math Symposium, CUPP symposium, and Jane Street NYC Summer Math Day

GoPeer

Personal Tutor

Remote

Spring 2020-Present

- Worked one on one tutoring dozens of students in SAT and AP Mathematics and Computer Science
- Customized lesson plans and teaching approaches to address individual student needs, consistently helping them achieve measurable improvements in test scores and conceptual understanding

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Columbia Fencing

Team Captain

New York, NY

Spring 2023-Spring 2025

- Ran practices, scheduled lessons, and led the team during competitions throughout the season
- Organized team events, collected assignments, and identified key needs within the team of 50 athletes, such as individual focus or squad dynamics. Responded in a way which improved both team morale and competition results.

Ad Astra Foundation

Nonprofit Foundation Participating Member

Remote

Spring 2024-Present

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- **COMPUTER SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, AND EDUCATION:** Honors Math, Fundamentals of Computer Systems, Introduction to AI, NLP, Modern Algebra, Advanced Programming, Parallel Optimization for Robotics

FENCING

- Individual Ivy League Champion, Two-Time Ivy League Team Champion, Junior National Champion, Junior World Championship Team Silver Medal, Two-time Pan-American Champion, Two-Time NCAA All American

TECHNICAL & LANGUAGE SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, Colab, Tensorflow, Java, HTML/CSS, Javascript, React
- **Spoken Languages:** English (Native), French (Fluent), Spanish (Proficient), Korean (Intermediate)