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<h1>Mission Statement</h1>

<p>My goal in life is to leave a positive, lasting impact on the world. I will use my strengths and talents responsibly to serve those in need. Knowing that I don't need to see the whole staircase to take the next step, I will step through life as a man of faith, integrity and altruism.</p>

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<div class="head">Finance Administrative Assistant</div>

<br><div class="sub">Community Living Opportunities | Overland Park, KS</div>

<br><div class="date">June 2013 - July 2013</div>

<p>My summer at Community Living Opportunities was spent helping out the finance group in any way I could. One of the main responsibilities I took up was to ensure that data was being transferred correctly from paper to excel sheets. So any month that didn’t balance, I would go through and analyze where it went wrong. Then I got their team back up to speed entering financial data all the way up to that summer. I also did some file organization and maintained the files for some of our clients. Some of the skills I worked on in this position were mental math, analysis and organization.</p>

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<div class="head">Gym Teacher</div>

<br><div class="sub">Sky's the Limit Childcare | Overland Park, KS</div>

<br><div class="date">November 2012 - January 2013</div>

<p>Sky’s the Limit Childcare was my first job. It started out a volunteer opportunity that would contribute to my hours for National Honors Society. I would come to their after school program and read with some of the students. Then I was brought on as a floater helping out the staff wherever I was needed. I helped with snack time, the homework room and evening the odds on the video games. It wasn’t long before I was brought on as a gym teacher where I’d lead two gym classes daily for students ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade. I experienced a lot working with all kinds of children from those who had a hard time making good decisions to those who were too “cool” to participate. I definitely developed an ability to keep calm in hectic situations. I also learned to leave whatever I was going through at the door because the children were our top priority and maintaining a positive atmosphere was a must.</p>

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<div class="head">CIS 115 Teaching Assistant</div>

<br><div class="sub">Kansas State University | Department of Computer Science</div>

<br><div class="date">August 2014 - December 2014</div>

<p>CIS 115 (Introduction to Computing Science) is a survey of computer science and its interaction with other disciplines incorporating historical development, theories and tools such as algorithm design and programming. As a UTA I had several responsibilities. I’d assist the professor with any activities he may have prepared for lecture, grade assignments and hold office hours to assist students. The assignments I graded included blogs, <a href="http://scratch.mit.edu" target="\_blank">Scratch</a> projects and various group projects such as papers and presentations. For blogs, students were assigned a topic on a weekly basis, which I would grade making sure it followed the topic, was the right length and was their original work. Then for projects, the professor would give the UTAs a rubric and we would essentially go through that adding points appropriately. One of the challenges I had in this position was figuring out the right amount of help to give to students. It was usually my goal to make sure the student kept thinking and problem solving. So rather than just give them the answer, I would ask them questions about their work to guide them to the answer.</p>

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<div class="head">Information Technology Intern</div>

<br><div class="sub">Kansas City Southern Railway | Kansas City, MO</div>

<br><div class="date">June 2014 - August 2014</div>

<p>At Kansas City Southern Railway, I worked with their change management group. Essentially, anything that was going to change in information technology went through our team to ensure a smooth and safe transition. My project was related to availability management which deals with the availability of the various components within the business. We were interested in knowing how often we were down and unavailable to our customers and having a clear understanding as to what components lead to our downtime. My focus was on building a model that output availability percentages based on the uptime data for each IT component. So I’d set up meetings with heads of different business functions to create network diagrams and gain an understanding of all the dependencies of that function. Then since most of the data came in excel sheets, I learned how to write macros. I’d use that data as input then, based on the information I gathered from our meetings, I’d write functions that output the appropriate availability percentage for the business function. I learned a great deal of soft skills in this position like communicating effectively, setting up and leading meetings, and collaborating across disciplines.</p>

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<div class="head">Undergraduate Researcher</div>

<br><div class="sub">Kansas State University | Department of Computer Science</div>

<br><div class="date">August 2013 - May 2014</div>

<p>The Developing Scholars Program gives students research opportunities by pairing them with a professor who will mentor them through a project. For this year’s project, I was paired with a professor in data mining. The focus we agreed on was in recommender systems. Since this was the very beginning of my career, I knew little about writing code. So in the first semester, I read a lot of research papers about collaborative and content-based recommender systems and how companies like Amazon and Netflix use them to keep customers returning for more content. Then in the spring semester, while I was taking my first programming class (CIS 200, Programming Fundamentals) I began to build a UI for an open source project I found online that recommended movies to users based on user ratings (collaborative filtering). It was a fairly simple project. The UI grabbed 5 random movies from the text file and the user could select one they liked and I’d run the algorithm to get recommendations for them. Then there was a "randomize" button that refreshed the list to display more movies. It was a really tough project, but still hugely beneficial as I was developing this project while learning Java for the first time.</p>

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<div class="head">Undergraduate Researcher</div>

<br><div class="sub">Kansas State University | Department of Computer Science</div>

<br><div class="date">January 2015 -</div>

<p>I'm working with Dr. Mitchell Neilsen and Sandia National Labs on developing dam analysis software. My role is to develop the user interface in Java. Mainly, I’m developing a text editor to aid in the creation of input files. We’re currently planning on having a helper pane which will parse the editor and display relevant information to the user such as the parameters expected or keywords the user may enter next. Down the line, we hope to add graphics to help visualize the output data. Also, I’m looking into developing an eclipse plugin which will have many of the features available in our text editor.</p>

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<div class="head">CodeU Mentorship Program</div>

<br><div class="sub">Google</div>

<br><div class="date">March 2015 - August 2015</div>

<p>CodeU is an exclusive development program where students are provided various opportunities to strengthen their programming skills. The main component was the mentorship I received from a Google engineer. We would connect every other week to discuss career development as a software engineer. Then there was the technical development which was in the form of programming questions similar to those found in technical interviews. On top of that, when the summer began, I took Udacity’s <a href="https://www.udacity.com/course/developing-android-apps--ud853" target="\_blank">Developing Android Apps</a> course and then created an original Android app with a group of students who shared my Google mentor. Collaboration was particularly challenging because my group had members in each time zone and each of us had full-time internships. GitHub was extremely helpful to our situation. In spite of difficulties, we were able to have a functioning app to present at the CodeU Summit on the Google Mountain View campus. We developed a video game information app that made us of GiantBomb’s <a href="http://www.giantbomb.com/api/documentation" target="\_blank">free api</a>. While the project felt somewhat like a failure because we didn’t have a fully functional app, the amount I learned developing the app made it feel like a success. CodeU combined with my internship made for a full, but really fun summer. I don’t know if I’ve ever learned so much in such a short period of time.</p>

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<div class="head">R&amp;D Software Engineer Intern</div>

<br><div class="sub">Lexmark Enterprise Software | Lenexa, KS</div>

<br><div class="date">June 2015 - August 2015</div>

<p>At Lexmark (formerly Perceptive Software) I worked in the finance process automation (FPA) group. Within that group I was on a team comprised of interns. We had a scrum master, product manager, technical writers and 3 developers. Our team was developing a project that had been on the FPA group's backlog. Utilizing OSGi, a modular system and service platform with dynamic components, we were developing a solution that would allow perceptive applications to be remotely installed, started, stopped, updated, and restarted without requiring a full system reboot. Alongside that, we implemented features such as views which allowed a system administrator to set what applications would be available at a specific URL address. For example, applications involving the HR process would be grouped under the same URL. I worked in Java, JavaScript and some HTML and CSS. I learned a great deal about OSGi, how to use GitHub, unit and integration testing, agile development, JavaScript and much more. In particular, I enjoyed working with other developers on the same project which was a first for me. My biggest challenge was finally gaining an understanding of something, then needing to learn something else. I learned something new literally everyday. It was an excellent and rewarding experience.</p>

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<div class="head">CIS 200 Undergraduate Teaching Assistant</div>

<br><div class="sub">Kansas State University | Department of Computer Science</div>

<br><div class="date">January 2015 - May 2015</div>

<p>CIS 200 (Programming Fundamentals) is a Java course which goes over the principles of algorithm design and their application to procedural programming. The course also includes an introduction to arrays, classes and objects. It's a fair amount of student's first time actually writing code. CIS 200 is comprised of lectures and a weekly lab. I was a UTA for 3 labs a week helping the GTA. One of the challenges in this position was accommodating the student's different levels of understanding and methods of learning. One student may be much further along and need very little explanation while the student next to her may be using arrays for the first time and get a lot out of seeing how it works on pen and paper. The rewarding part was how much I learned. When you need to know enough about a concept to explain it to someone seeing it for the time, your understanding of it increases greatly. It's likely I learned more being a UTA for the course than when I was a student.</p>

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