

I came across this listing on Carleton College's job board and started the application immediately. I have had an interest in financial systems and investment, especially recently when I started playing around with trading cryptocurrency. I think it would be highly enriching to combine this with my interest and skill in software development as either a full-time software developer, or as an intern at D. E. Shaw & Co.

Throughout my years as a computer science major at Carleton College, I've been making sure to get a wide range of exposures, both in and outside of my major. Through some of the foundational classes, I've gained thorough experience in developing in a unix/linux environment. Furthermore, I have experience creating and working with REST APIs. In particular, in Software Design, I created a REST-ful API implemented in python that connects a front end to a Postgres database. Additionally, I took the not-so-popular Operating Systems course which introduced me to a lot of the concepts involved in working with distributed systems. Outside of my department, I explored various courses in the humanities to gain different ways of looking at the same problem. A course that stands out is Designing for Diversity which focused on the considerations that one must take if a system is to be as inclusive as possible.

I've applied the knowledge gained in my coursework in summer work opportunities in my past two summers. During my time in Lotic Labs, I worked on making calls to web APIs to process and store data put out by various environmental government agencies. This past summer, I worked on creating a prototype for a new social media platform that would emphasize connections in a locale. I created the backend, which included data storage and credentials management using AWS, and the frontend using Apache Cordova, which allows for mobile application development through HTML, CSS, and Javascript code. Though I cannot distribute an installation of this app, I do have a document with screenshots and descriptions of the features available at request.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to work under D. E. Shaw & Co and join the fascinating world of automated trading. Thank you for your consideration.