

Laura Salas

☎ (+1) 514-699-1223 | ✉ laurasalasa96@gmail.com | 🌐 laura-e-salas | 🎓 Graduating May 2023 | 🇨🇦 Canadian Citizen

Education

University of Montreal | B.S. Computer Science

Montreal, Quebec

2020 UMontreal Scholarship Recipient | 2019 Ada Lovelace Scholarship Winner

Sep. 2019 - May 2023

- **Relevant classes taken:** Programming in **C++ I & II**, Programming in **Javascript/Node.JS**, Operations Research (in **Julia**), Intro to Statistics (in **R**), Programming in **Java**, Discrete Structures, Software Engineering & UML, Data Structures in **Python**, Intro. to Algos., Comp. Arch. I

Experience

Facebook | Software Engineer Intern

Fremont, California

LANGUAGE(S): HACK (PHP), XHP, CMS, CSS | **OTHER CONCEPT(S) EXPLORED:** SYSTEM DESIGN, LANGUAGE PARSING

May 2022 - Aug. 2022

- Received **exceptional feedback** from managers, peers and teammates about my engineering quality, as well as for my leadership and communication skills. **Finished project with excellent results and went beyond initial scope.**
- Built modular and modern email UI components for migrating over 20+ Product applications. **Took the initiative to contribute multiple components to our design system library**, all while communicating with product and project designers
- Designed and built extendable back-end APIs for easy developer integration experience, **reducing email onboarding development time and thus saving company hundreds of hours of engineering**

Facebook | Software Engineer Intern

Fremont, California (remote)

LANGUAGE(S): REACT (JS), HACK (PHP) | **OTHER CONCEPT(S) EXPLORED:** REST APIs, OAUTH, SQL, OBJECT DESIGN

May 2021 - Aug 2021

- Worked on both front and back ends of our team's product, **going beyond initial scope** by collaborating with designers, refining components as deemed fit to **prioritize usability, user productivity and cohesiveness** with other tool components
- **Initiated technical discussions** about adjustments to ongoing projects as well as ideas for software modules to be conceived in the near future.
- Gave **product demonstrations** of my designated project to large audiences; received **strong feedback from organisation leaders**

Collineo Inc. | Software Engineer Intern

Montreal, Quebec

LANGUAGE(S): C++, QT5, PYTHON, JAVASCRIPT | **OTHER CONCEPTS EXPLORED:** SYSTEM DESIGN, ROBOTICS

Jul. 2020 - May 2021

- **Helped build and refine** software components that handled low-level communication with remote-controlled robotics systems, introducing data analysis as a way to deliver more precise results and predictions

Applied Research in Linguistics Informatics Lab @ UMontreal | Summer Research Intern

Montreal, Quebec

LANGUAGE(S) AND LIBRARIES USED: PYTHON 3, SPACY, NLTK | **CONCEPTS EXPLORED:** NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

Jun. 2019 - Jul. 2019

- Started an ongoing project which consists in finding alternatives to ML with the help of **Python's NLP libraries**, in order to automatically answer 100,000 question & answer couplets in Stanford's Question Answering Dataset (SQUAD)

Theoretical and Quantum Computing Lab @ UMontreal | Summer Research Intern

Montreal, Quebec

CONCEPT(S) EXPLORED: THEORETICAL COMPUTING, 3D MODELLING, 3D PRINTING

Jul. 2019 - Aug. 2019

- Successfully built a real-life demonstration of the **BB84 quantum cryptography protocol** that consisted of a laser beam, polarizing filters and a beam splitter. **3D modelling** was also used to create and print mounts with specific sizes and shapes

Projects + Extracurricular

Applied Research in Linguistics Informatics Lab @ UMontreal | Research Project

Jan. 2022 - May 2022

(NLP) WORD EMBEDDINGS TO DETERMINE DIFFERENCES IN MASCULINE/FEMININE WORD FORMS (LINK TO PROJECT)

- Vectorize and subsequently find the neighbours of words in both female and male forms in French
- Determine possible differences in context of word's usage in one gender vs. the other, using a corpus of 100 years of French Newspapers.

UMontreal's Women in CS Group | Co-Founder & Spokeswoman

May 2020 - Present

ENSURING REPRESENTATION AND FURTHER PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN CS & STEM - NOW 80+ STUDENT MEMBERS!

- Recognized the need for such a group, **took the initiative to co-found it, lead it and represent it**, ensuring a lasting impact on our university

Honours + Awards

2022	2nd Place Overall McGill Women in CS 2022 Hackathon - For our wardrobe app powered by graph algos.	Montreal, Quebec
2019	Ada-Lovelace Scholarship "Given to one female student per year with academic excellence and who shows great interest and involvement in the fields of Computer Science and Mathematics "	Montreal, Quebec
2019	2nd Place Best (college level) Thesis Presentation - Thesis about Greenhouse Optimization	Montreal, Quebec
2015-19	Other Prizes: Canadian Robotics Competition (CRC) (2nd place team prize) (2019) • AURA Prize for Student Engagement (2015) • Desautels (McGill) Preparatory Case Competition (1st place) (2015)	Montreal, Quebec