

# Maria DeCaro

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## EDUCATION

**Cornell Tech (Cornell University), New York, NY**  
**Jacobs Technion-Cornell Dual Master of Science Degrees**  
Concentration: Connective Media

August 2024 - May 2026

**Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY**  
**Bachelor of Science in Information Management & Technology**  
Concentrations: Data Analytics and Project Management

August 2022 - May 2024

**Renée Crown University Honors Program**

**Accomplishments:** Spring 2024, Fall 2023, and Spring 2023 School of Information 4.0 Dean's Lists; Fall 2022 School of Information Dean's Lists; AP Scholar with Honor Award 2022

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Coding Languages:** Python, SQL, R

**Certifications:** Certified Associate in Project Management (In-Progress), Career Essentials in Generative AI by MS and LinkedIn (2023); 2019 MS Office Specialist: Excel Associate (2022)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation: FBI Honors Intern** (Albany, NY & New York, NY) June 2024 - Present

- **Summer Internship (Albany, NY, June 2024 – August 2024):** Developed a complex data analytics tool to simplify identifying relationships and degrees of connection within a specific domain, using Python and key data analytics modules. Created network visualizations with Matplotlib and NetworkX to uncover patterns and common characteristics. Additionally, leveraged Excel for data organization, trend analysis, and reporting, improving the efficiency of investigative workflows.
- **Academic Year Internship (New York, NY, September 2024 – Present):** Split time between two teams:
  - Computer Analysis Response Team (CART): Learn critical forensic software, assist with various technical requests, and support digital evidence processing.
  - Data Analyst Squad: Develop Python programs, including web scraping with BeautifulSoup and automation tools, to assist agents with investigations. Work with large datasets, improving data intake using Python and internal systems.

**Syracuse University: Peer Leader First Year Seminar 101** (Syracuse, New York)

August 2023 - December 2023

- Led weekly discussions with 30 students on diversity, inclusion, and equity, clarifying campus policies.
- Provided guidance on resources and ethical considerations on campus, while fostering a successful transition to college.

## RELEVANT PROJECTS

**Cornell Tech Applied Machine Learning: Sentiment Analysis and Student Mental Health Project**

Fall 2024

- Built a custom dataset from 16 university-focused Reddit subreddits across U.S. regions, applying sentiment analysis to track emotional trends during high-stress periods like midterms and finals.
- Developed and evaluated ML models (logistic regression, deep learning, random forest, temporal modeling, clustering) to classify sentiment and identify mental health patterns, finding higher negative sentiment in California universities compared to other regions and proposing a framework for proactive university support.

**Syracuse University Data Mining: Applied Machine Learning Models**

Spring 2024

- Coded a Python program to predict loan default probability using bank data, applying machine learning models such as Random Forest (highest accuracy), Gradient Boosting Machine, and Linear Regression to assess financial risk.
- Collaborated with teammates to implement SMOTE for imbalanced data handling, improving model performance and gaining insights into borrower risk factors, demonstrating how ML can aid banks in decision-making and risk management.

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**Founder of "A Happy Heart is a Healthy Heart"**

February 2015 - Present

- Teach students across 15+ schools on how to use hands-only CPR to assist anyone in need.
- Design, organize, and execute a fundraiser pageant raising over \$2,500 for the American Heart Association.
- Educate thousands of men, women, and children across the country on healthy living tips to enhance lifestyles.
- Network with other women and professionals across the country to share the progress and growth of my organization.

## LEADERSHIP

**Cornell Tech Campus Ambassador:** Peer-Mentor to Incoming and Prospective Students (Fall 2024 - Present)

**Women in Technology Club:** Member (Fall 2024 - Present)