Michael Hekmat

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EDUCATION

M.S. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling | Anticipated 2026 Graduation
Marquette University

B.S. in Psychology | 3.36/4.00 GPA | August 2020 – May 2024
University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Related coursework: Clinical Communication Skills, Data Science and Modeling, Psychology of Perception

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Summer Research Assistant | UW-Madison | April 2024 – Present
Action Research Facility – Dr. Nick Buttrick and Dr. Ryan Hampton
- Assisted with data collection for firearm study through collection of physiological arousal levels (heart rate, facial muscle contractions, and skin conductance).
- Trained in electrocardiogram (ECG) and facial electromyography (fMEG) placement and preparation procedures.
- Communicated with gun-owners regarding electrode placement and body preparation procedures.

Research Assistant | UW-Madison | August 2023 – May 2024
Learning and Transfer Lab – Dr. Shawn Green
- Collected data from 100+ participants over 50+ sessions for perceptual learning tasks (PLFest)
- Participated in pilot studies and weekly lab meetings discussing and exploring visual perception topics.
- Implemented efficient participant recruitment strategies through informative and eye-catching posters.

Research Assistant | UW-Madison | September 2022 – May 2024
Action Research Facility – Dr. Nick Buttrick and Dr. Sosuke Okada
- Recruited future undergraduate research assistants in 2023 and 2024 UW-Madison Undergraduate Research Fair.
- Collected Tweets from various politicians to observe perceptions of post-mass shooting related Tweets.
- Coded ChatGPT responses to understand cultural differences between small and large town populations.

Laboratory Technician | UW-Madison | May 2022 – May 2024
Pelegri Lab – Dr. Francisco Pelegri
- Monitored and reported health status (temperature, conductivity diet, etc.) of Zebrafish and Poison Dart Frogs.
- Advised new team members on lab and expectations for efficient coordination between employees.
- Sanitized petri dishes and fish tanks for genetics research.

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python and R
Spoken Languages: English (fluent), Persian (fluent), French (beginner), and Spanish (beginner)

Software: Unity, FreeSurfer, AcqKnowledge, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), AutoCAD, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Premiere Pro

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Awards: 2024 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Scholar (OURS) Award and Spring 2023 Dean's List candidate

Volunteering : Volunteer Crisis Counselor (June 2023 – December 2023)