

# Nikolas Thornton

Atlanta, GA | [nicktcontact@gmail.com](mailto:nicktcontact@gmail.com) | [nthorn.com](http://nthorn.com) |  [nTh0rn](#) |  [nikolas-thornton](#)

## EDUCATION

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**Georgia Institute of Technology**, Atlanta, GA Jan 2025 – Dec 2027

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (in-progress)*

GPA: 3.7/4.0

**Kennesaw State University**, Kennesaw, GA Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (transferred-progress)*

GPA: 4.0/4.0

**Clayton State University**, Morrow, GA Aug 2022 – May 2024

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (transferred-progress)*

GPA: 4.0/4.0

**Relevant Coursework:** Data Structures & Algorithms, Discrete Mathematics, Calculus 3

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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Languages: Java, Python, C#, C++, C, Rust, Windows' Batch, HTML, CSS, Tailwind

Technologies: FastAPI, AWS, SQLAlchemy, GraphQL, Graphene/Strawberry, Astro

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Cloud, AI, and Enablement Intern, Ansys/Synopsis**, Atlanta, GA May 2025 – Dec 2025

- Developed/maintained an internal tool and API for the purpose of tracking BLOB/ML-experiment provenance using Python, SQLAlchemy, and GraphQL.
- Developed a dynamic testing framework for compatibility with any combination of recursive and interreferential SQLAlchemy/Strawberry objects as well as conversion methods for complex types.

**Computer Science Tutor, Kennesaw State University**, Kennesaw, GA Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

- Tutored undergraduate and postgraduate students in Java, C#, and Python.
- Awarded as the 3<sup>rd</sup> most-booked tutor for Fall 2024 and Employee of the Month for August, 2024.

**Tutor / Front Desk Assistant, Clayton State University**, Morrow, GA Nov 2022 – May 2024

- Tutored undergraduate students OOP in Java/Python and mathematics up to Calculus 3.
- Handled various administrative tasks and oversaw the front desk.

## PROGRAMMING PROJECTS | See more at [nthorn.com/projects](http://nthorn.com/projects)

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**Chess Engine (C++)** |  [GitHub](#) Dec 2024

- A built-from-scratch chess bot / engine rated at ~1600 Elo, playable at [lichess.org/Terconari](https://lichess.org/Terconari).
- NegaMax with alpha/beta pruning, iterative deepening, time-control dependent logic, and more.

**Dynamic Sudoku Solver (Rust)** |  [GitHub](#) | [Article](#) Sep 2024

- A dynamic sudoku solver capable of solving puzzles of any size or complexity.
- Stack-based backtracking, hidden single candidate elimination, and more.

## ACTIVITIES

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**Math Club Vice President, Clayton State University** Aug 2023 – May 2024

- Regularly led meetings, gave presentations, and organized presentations from speakers.
- Organized engaging events to promote an appreciation of math amongst students.

**Computational Physics Research, Clayton State University** Aug 2023 – Aug 2024

- Developed a low-cost photon-based hardware random number generator.
- Programmed all physical hardware and developed custom analysis algorithms in Python.
- Won 1<sup>st</sup> at Clayton State's 2024 CIMS Symposium. Rated 15/18 at the APS 2024 March Meeting.