Navraj Narula

http://navierula.github.io

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Research Interests

Theory of database design and query construction, information retrieval via applications of text mining, natural language processing, and sentiment analysis. Advocate for storytelling and research with quantitative analysis and data visualization.

Education

B.A. in English Literature and Computer Science *May 2016*
Boston University College of Arts and Sciences Boston, MA

B.S. in Secondary English Education *May 2016*
Boston University School of Education Boston, MA

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, Java, HTML (Fluent), CSS, Javascript, Haskell, C (Learning)

Spoken Languages: English, Thai (Native), Punjabi (Comfortable), Spanish (Beginner)

Experience

Data Storytelling Researcher, *Boston University - Boston, MA* *Planned for January 2016*

- Directed study, to culminate in a final quantitative analysis on topic of choice
- To be supervised by Dr. Maggie Mulvihill, Journalism Professor and Faculty Fellow at Hariri Institute for Computing and Computational Science

Technical Education Intern, *Cambridge Community Television - Cambridge, MA* *July 2015 - Present*

- Provide one-on-one assistance to community members in all-to-most technical areas: programming, image/content editing, and general computer navigation
- Enroll in CCTV-offered classes to further knowledge of software individuals may be worthing with
- Build templates in HTML/CSS/Javascript to distribute to lab attendees to serve as a starting point for projects
- Handle issues of classroom misconduct via mediation between individuals or private conversation

Course Grader, *Boston University Computer Science Dept - Boston, MA* *January 2015 - Present*

- Course — CS105: Introduction to Databases and Data Mining), taught by Dr. Dave Sullivan
- Provide numeric grades for assignments related to: Python programming, SQL query plans, data extraction, file manipulation, Weka data mining,
- Outline grading reports for instructor, specifying students who may require extra assistance

Catalyst Editor, *The Daily Free Press - Boston, MA* *September 2014 - Present*

- Revise science/tech-related articles and generate pitches, sourcing timely and relevant happenings for weekly newspaper publication
- Conduct interviews with individuals and document recorded transcriptions for feature pieces
- Maintain contact with up to 50 staff writers during story assignment up until point of publication, offering input and edits along the way

Desktop Support Assistant, *Boston University Computer Science Dept - Boston, MA* *May 2013 - Present*

- Reboot Linux and Window machines during package loss, marking machine name in Nagios log
- Provide assistance to supervisor in regards to software installation and hardware maintenance
- create computer science accounts for declared majors and any undergraduate enrolled in a computer science course
- Offer one-on-one assistance to students experiencing difficulty in introductory courses

Research Intern, *The Center for Education Reform - Washington, DC* *June 2014 - August 2014*

- Maintained and updated databases with information pertaining to all charter schools within the USA
- Contributed to Edspresso by writing blog posts related to educational policy
- planned event featuring self-selected panelists and opened up invitation to all interns in the metro area interested in pursuing a career in educational policy

Teams and Projects

Systems Analyst, *Global App Initiative (GAI) - Boston, MA* *September 2015 - Present*

GAI is an on-campus organization at Boston University that trains students to develop mobile-web applications to aid the mission of non-profits. My team of seven are I are currently working to create an anonymous Q and A forum for the Boston Public Health Commission, coding for Android (Java) and iOS (Swift) devices. Alongside programming, I maintain our Github repositories.

Team Member, *CS411: Software Engineering - Boston, MA* *September 2015 - Present*

In this Boston University course, my team of six and I are creating a web application that will allow users to discover the 'most beautiful path' as opposed to the most optimal one, a concept well integrated by most map applications. We are working with Javascript and Node-Gulp to display our front-end and building a database system using MongoDB. Our audience are tourists and travelers who prefer the scenic route.

Independent Research, *Sentiment Analysis via Twitter Data* *July 2015 - Present*

With the aid of Professor Nik Brown (Northeastern University), I gathered tweets hashtagged with trending topics using the tweepy library in Python. I then developed a text classification model to categorize 50 random sentiments into either a positive or negative category, done so by keeping track of various dictionaries. Accurate results were displayed by means of a self-implemented sentiment score algorithm. Still a work-in-progress.

Leadership Roles

Vice President of Internal Affairs, Boston University College of Arts and Sciences

Peer Mentor and FY101 Instructor, Boston University College of Arts and Sciences

First-Year Student Outreach Project Staff Leader, Boston University Community Service Center

Admissions Ambassador, Boston University Admissions

Admissions Student Diversity Board, Boston University Admissions

Awards

Ford Foundation Travel Scholarship, invitation to participate in journalism and virtual reality hackathon organized by MediaShift in Los Angeles

Joan Dee and Boyd Dewey Book Award, Boston University School of Education

Publications

Harvard Summer Review, Issue 19, Septimus Warren Smith: Woolf's Hide-and-Seek Target

Boston University WR Journal, Issue 5, The Epiphany as the Evanescent Moment: Flashes of Unintellectual Light in James Joyce's *Dubliners*