# Neerja Thakkar

## STUDENT, RESEARCHER, CODER

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## EDUCATION

### DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
*June 2019 (expected)*
B.A. Computer Science
Applied Math minor
GPA: 3.89/4.0

### ST. PAUL ACADEMY AND SUMMIT SCHOOL
*June 2015*
GPA: 3.96/4.0

## COURSEWORK

Computer Science 1 (Python) & 10 (Java), Linear Algebra, Chemistry 5, Biology 11, Economics 1

## HONORS/AWARDS

College: Citation for Academic Excellence in Film 7 (Writing Seminar), Sophomore Science Research Scholarship

High school: Cum Laude Society, Mathematical Association of America Award, AIME qualifier, National Merit Scholarship Winner, National AP Scholar, National Spanish Exam Medal
SAT: 2400

## SKILLS AND PROJECTS

### TECHNICAL SKILLS
+ Proficient: Python, Java
+ Experience with: HTML/CSS, XML, Swift, Apache Spark, LaTeX

### SELECTED PROGRAMMING PROJECTS
+ XML data parser (Java, also involved Spark and SQL)
+ Connect Four game with Alpha-Beta pruning game tree AI (Java)
+ Graphical editor (Java)
+ Implementation of BFS to find shortest paths on a Dartmouth map (Python)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN          June - August 2016
3M Health Information Systems ▪ Maplewood, MN
+ Modified and updated an XML data parser in Java
+ This software is critical for the entire Data Science Lab

### CS1 SECTION LEADER          March 2016 - Present
Dartmouth Computer Science Department ▪ Hanover, NH
+ Teach weekly sections in Python on basic programming skills
+ Mentor students through understanding concepts and writing and debugging code
+ Grade students' exams and coursework throughout term

### CO-MANAGER          Feb 2016 - Present
Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra ▪ Hanover, NH
+ Coordinate general operations of orchestra, execute hiring of professional musicians
+ Resolve personnel conflicts and concerns within orchestra, act as liaison between students, conductor and Hopkins Center
+ Foster community building by facilitating social events

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### BAILEY-KELLOGG RESEARCH GROUP          September 2016
Dartmouth Computer Science Department ▪ Hanover, NH
+ Recruited to implement clustering algorithms on T-cell receptor DNA sequences with Python
+ Will help answer questions about similarities and differences in TCR repertoires in different patient populations

### HUANG RESEARCH GROUP          Oct 2015 – March 2016
Geisel School of Medicine ▪ Hanover, NH
+ Developed a procedure to induce B cells to switch isotype to IgG3, a critical component of a project to develop an HIV vaccine

### HOGQUIST RESEARCH GROUP          May 2014 – Dec 2014
University of Minnesota Twin Cities ▪ Minneapolis, MN
+ Assisted a 6th year PhD candidate, then researched full time, investigating a correlation between NKG2A+ natural killer cell numbers and Epstein-Barr virus severity

## ADDITIONAL INVOLVEMENTS

**AT DARTMOUTH:**
+ Violinist in Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra
+ First Year Peer Mentor
+ Divest Dartmouth
+ Women in Computer Science
+ South Asian Student Association

**VIOLIN:**
+ Studied solo classical violin for over 13 years
+ Played in numerous chamber groups, in high school and at Dartmouth
+ Violinist in Minnesota Youth Symphonies for 8 years
+ Participated in Stringwood, a summer chamber music festival
+ Taught violin lessons

**DANCE:**
+ Learned Bharatanatyam, a classical Indian dance, for 12 years
+ My studies culminated with a 2-hour solo debut performance