

NISHAN KHANAL

Computer Engineer/ Lecturer
Master's in Data Science and Analytics

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Dr. Yong Zhuang
College of Computing
Grand Valley State University
Allendale, Michigan

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Dear professor,

My name is Nishan Khanal and I am writing to apply for a graduate assistantship opportunity under your guidance. I've enrolled in the Master's in Data Science and Analytics program at GVSU for the Winter 2025 Intake. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from Tribhuvan University, Nepal, securing 80.5%. My academic achievements are further highlighted by a **GRE score of 326 (Quantitative: 166, Verbal: 160)**, which reflects my strong analytical and problem-solving abilities—skills essential for breaking down complex concepts as a graduate assistant.

Throughout my undergraduate studies, I engaged in a range of **research projects**, delving into topics such as "Two Factor Authentication," "Movie Recommendation System," and "Image Encryption Using Chaotic Logistic Maps." More recently, after joining the Computer and Electronics Department at Kantipur Engineering College, I collaborated with the faculty of the Civil Department to co-author a paper titled **"Development of a Roughness Evaluation Model Based on Existing Distresses for Asphalt Concrete Pavements."** This collaboration made the most of my proficiency in statistical learning. Additionally, a paper titled **"Pavement Condition Prediction Model using ANN"** has been submitted for publication. These experiences have enhanced my skills in data analysis and visualization, Machine Learning pipelines and programming. I'm interested in applying data science and machine learning in diverse domains, particularly in tourism, healthcare, education, and cybersecurity including misinformation containment, which would be highly beneficial to developing countries like Nepal. However, I'm also open to diving into applications in other sectors.

As a **lecturer with more than three years of teaching experience** at an engineering college, I have been teaching and conducting practical labs on various subjects such as Operating Systems, Artificial Intelligence, Data Mining, Computer Organization & Architecture, DSA, Computer Programming, DBMS etc. In addition, I have supervised final-year projects related to machine learning, further enriching my practical experience in the field. I have actively built practical applications, such as a COVID-19 Information Chatbot and a vocabulary study web app for GRE preparation using Python. Leveraging my skill in python, I also **delivered** a 30-hour training titled **"Python Essentials for Educators"** to the faculty of all the departments of the College. Moreover, I played a key role in establishing a **dedicated LINUX lab** at the college.

I am confident that my academic background, research experiences, and teaching skills make me a valuable addition to your team. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application.

Sincerely,

Nishan Khanal

