

WILLIAM (WEI) ZHU

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Education

The University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)

MA Computational Social Science, GPA: -/4.0, June 2022 (Expected)

Current Courses: Python Programming, Perspectives on Computational Analysis, Competitive Strategy (Booth)

Haverford College (Haverford, PA)

BA Sociology, Minor in Statistics, GPA: 3.73/4.0, GRE: V:165 Q:167 W:5.0, May 2019

Relevant Courses: Financial and Managerial Accounting, Applied Multivariate Statistical Analysis, Linear Algebra, Probability, Qualitative Methods, Economic Sociology, Econometrics

Work Experience

Westat (Rockville, MD)

Research Assistant (Full-time), July 2019 – June 2020

- Received “Exceptional” (highest rating) at yearly performance review in all 8 education evaluation projects by performing tasks including data analyses (in R and Excel), literature review, interviews, and report writings.
[Improving the Use of Research Evidence](#) [funded by William T. Grant Foundation]
 - Saved project budget by \$30K by compiling datasets 2 months ahead of schedule from the National Center for Education Evaluation (NCEE) restricted-access database.
 - Performed data imputation and built machine learning models to predict the effectiveness of school intervention programs on other schools (Project put on hold during covid).
- [Verizon Innovation Learning Schools \(vils\) Evaluation](#) [client: Verizon]
- Contributed to the finding that tablets increased student engagement in the classroom by 54% by performing data analyses and visualization of 200+ schools’ survey data.
- [Racial Equity Action Leadership \(REAL\) Program Evaluation](#) [client: Leadership Montgomery]
- Performed participant observations at a series of monthly workshops where 30+ corporate leaders at Montgomery County (MD) learn and discuss methods to improve racial equity in organizations.
 - Found that the workshop program is effective at guiding participants to craft racial equity plan for their companies by organizing 2 focus groups and administering 10 surveys. Co-authored in the final evaluation report that was presented to the client.

Academic & Volunteering Experience

Haverford College (Haverford, PA)

Undergraduate Researcher, Senior Thesis (Advisor: Mark Gould), July 2018 – May 2019

- Received 4.0 (highest grade) by conducting a year-long research project on the impact of Taiwan’s semiconductor industry to democratization in the 1980s (literature review). Authored a 21,000+ word research paper.

Undergraduate Researcher & Conference Presenter, January 2017 – May 2017

- Authored a research paper titled “The Skew of Pathways: The Structural Explanation for the Asian American Academic Achievements”; Presented at the 2019 American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting.

International Student Resource Persons (ISRP), 2016-2017 & 2018-2019 academic years

- Honoree for the Class of 2019 Service to Diversity Reception; Organized 10+ workshops and Philly field trips for 120 incoming international students (Class of 2020 and 2022) from 35 different countries around the world.

Skills & Interests

Relevant Skills: R, Python, SQL, Latex, HTML/CSS, Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, PowerPoint, Word)

Interests: Reading books about organizations, strategy, and innovation (finished 50+ business books in 2020)

Languages: English (Fluent); Mandarin Chinese (Native)