WILLIAM (WEI) ZHU

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Education

The University of Chicago (Chicago, IL)

MA Computational Social Science (STEM), Quadrangle Scholar, GPA: 3.8/4.0   *June 2022 (Expected)*

Relevant Courses: Python Programming, Perspectives on Computational Analysis, Competitive Strategy (Booth)
Current Courses: Introduction to Machine Learning, Causal Inference, Computational Content Analysis

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, Class Race and Education

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 using R (tidyverse) 2 months ahead of schedule from the National Center for Education Evaluation (NCEE) restricted-access database.
- Performed data imputation using regression tree and hot-deck imputation. Built models using LASSO (glmnet) to predict the effectiveness of school intervention programs on other schools (Project on hold due to Covid).

Meta-analysis of dropout prevention program

- Demonstrate the usage of meta-analysis techniques in program evaluation studies by analyzing administrative data.
- Co-authored an article titled "Using state data sets and meta-analysis of low-powered studies to evaluate a school-based dropout prevention program for students with disabilities" published at *Studies in Educational Evaluation*.

Racial Equity Action Leadership (REAL) Program Evaluation [client: Leadership Montgomery]

- Performed participant observations at a series of monthly workshops where 30+ regional corporate leaders 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.

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
Interests: Reading books about organizational behavior, strategy, and management (finished 60 books in 2020)
Languages: Mandarin