

Benjamin Peck

5415 Connecticut Ave NW Apt 505 | Washington, DC 20015 | (248) 875-5176
benrpeck16@gmail.com | peckben1.github.io | peckben1.medium.com

SKILLS

Data Analysis and Visualization | Python | Pandas | SQL | Tableau | Predictive Modeling | Machine Learning
Web Scraping | Historical Research | Microsoft Office | Git/Github | Communication

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant at General Assembly in Washington, DC

May 2021 to present

- Help students understand and implement data science concepts and techniques including Python, data analysis and visualization, supervised learning models, regularization, unsupervised learning, natural language processing, time series, neural networks, SQL, web scraping and APIs, statistical methods, version control systems, and data ethics.

Data Science Immersive Student at General Assembly in Washington, DC

December 2019 to March 2020

- Completed twelve-week intensive course covering topics in data analysis, data visualization, predictive modeling, machine learning, data mining, and other related areas.
- Collaborated on a group project (https://github.com/peckben1/Flood_Depths) for a client estimating flood depths from ground-based images using convolutional neural networks, image segmentation, and preprocessing techniques.
- Completed an independent capstone project (https://github.com/peckben1/Flood_Depths) using predictive modeling and different clustering approaches to analyze geographic trends in county-level US federal data.

Historical Research Assistant in Washington, DC

July 2018 to present

- Write Python scripts to web scrape digitized material, interact with APIs, and organize retrieved data and metadata
- Review collections and digitize relevant documents for clients conducting historical research for publication.
- Capture text, still images, and cartographic/architectural materials from paper, microfilm, and digital formats.

Historical Geography Technician at GeoSearch Environmental Information in Washington, DC

March 2017 to May 2018

- Automated repetitive tasks with Python scripts for improvements to processes.
- Worked independently and collaboratively to locate and digitize relevant documents from collections at the Library of Congress to determine the usage history of properties.
- Redesigned the schema for a proprietary database.

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Bachelor of Arts in History, May 2016

- Research-oriented history education with additional studies in digital humanities and data analysis.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

General Assembly Sustainable Cities Hackathon

February 2021

- Led the data collection, cleaning, visualization, and analysis for a project (<https://github.com/The-Sunshine-Collective>) to estimate potential savings from solar panels placed on the roof of a building at a given address.

General Assembly Small Business Hackathon

March 2021

- Participated as a team data scientist in the creation of Do It Right (DIR), a Chrome extension to redirect carry-out orders from delivery service websites to restaurant websites, avoiding awarding unearned referral fees.

Chronicling America API Bulk Search and Download Tool

September 2020

- Wrote a set of Python scripts (<https://github.com/peckben1/ChroniclingAmerica>) which interact with the Chronicling America API maintained by the Library of Congress, allowing targeted bulk search and download, generating metadata files, and highlighting terms of interest on downloaded pages.

Flickr API Bulk Scrape for Historical Research

March 2020, updated September 2020

- Created a Jupyter notebook (<https://github.com/peckben1/OlmstedScrape>) using the Flickr API to retrieve files, robustly parse descriptions, and generate a metadata file.

Island Maker

July 2020

- Created a Jupyter notebook (<https://github.com/peckben1/IslandMaker>) which uses Perlin noise and custom Python classes to generate semi-random islands and simulate water flows.

Link Checker

December 2020

- Created Python tools (<https://github.com/peckben1/LinkCheck>) to crawl a given website and either log all instances of a target link or perform an untargeted check for any broken links.