

Pirooz Barkoosaraei

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CS Undergraduate Office

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CSC494/495 Course Application

To whom it may concern,
I am writing this as part of my application for the 2025-2026 CSC494/495 research project course.

My name is Pirooz, I'm a UofT student pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science and Cognitive Science, currently exploring opportunities to delve deeper into Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, particularly in the context of mental health and psychology.

Over the past couple of years, I've gained experience in a few areas of Computer Science, ranging from creating a Convolution Neural Network in Python for a research paper under a professor to software development using Python and Docker at Wayfair. I have skills in both front-end and back-end development, particularly using JavaScript, React.js and Next.js for front-end and Python and Java for back-end. At the moment, my attention is captivated by the field of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, the prevailing trends in today's landscape. I'm particularly interested in the applications of machine learning in psychology and what insights Neural Networks can teach us about the psychology behind what occurs in the brain of someone dealing with mental illness. As such, I wish to gain skills in neural networks and the current methods and practices deployed in the ML field.

Outside of my career pursuits, I have a passion for powerlifting, a discipline that demands levels of perseverance—qualities that translate well into my academic and professional endeavours. I also enjoy reading books and watching movies; one film I've been obsessed with lately is "Fallen Angels" by Wong Kar-wai, which I highly recommend. Additionally, I cherish moments spent playing with my four cats.

Thank you for reviewing my application. Please let me know if you need any more information; you can always reach out to me via email at **piroozsab@gmail.com** or phone at **647-774-4891**.

Sincerely,

Pirooz Barkoosaraei

