Sami Ascha

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Education

Tufts University c/o 2019; Medford, MA; GPA: 3.4
International Relations (B.A.) and Computer Science (B.S.)

University School of Cleveland c/o 2015; Hunting Valley, OH
National Merit Commended; AP Scholar with Distinction; Congressional Debate State Semifinalist

Experience

[District Office Intern, 2014] – **Office of Congressman David Joyce**
Assisted with interest group research and data collection, met with constituents and small businesses throughout Northeast Ohio.

[Investment Analyst, 2015] – **Tufts Financial Group**
Analyst for TFG's energy sector. Assisted with two stock pitches – Sempra Energy, a natural gas utilities company based in California, and Cheniere Energy, an international LNG provider.

[Assistant Instructor, Summer 2016] – **Jusoor for Syria**
I spent one month in Eastern Lebanon working as an assistant teacher instructing Syrian refugees (ages 6-13) in areas such as English, general science, and arts/crafts. Jusoor, the NGO I worked for, operates several refugee schools near the Syrian border. [MORE INFORMATION]

[Student Employee, June 2017 – May 2018] – **Tufts University Financial Aid Office**
Responsible for data analysis and organization of highly confidential loan information through a variety of restricted databases utilized by the university. Mostly excel work and updating accounts through UAS (University Accounting Service).

[Group Technology Intern, Summer 2018] – **UBS**
As part of the Analytics Technology team, I honed my SQL/Big Data skills, using query engines like Impala and Hive to perform data transformations on the team's Hadoop Cluster. I also worked on MicroStrategy reports and contributed to a design document outlining a new database framework. Other projects include various unit tests, data lineage reports, and an internal service UI developed as part of the intern hackathon.

Skills & Interests

- Language Experience: Arabic (fluent), Spanish (intermediate)
- Coding Experience: C, C++, R, Python, Javascript, SQL
- Data Science/Database Tools: Hadoop, Impala, Hive, MicroStrategy, NumPy, SciPy, R, SQL
- Writing Samples: [Click here for my Tufts Daily profile]
- Other: MS Office Suite, Adobe Photoshop and After Effects

Certifications

- Bloomberg Market Concepts
- CITI Program Research Ethics and Compliance Training (valid until July 2019)

Notable CS Projects

Lossy Image Compressor (~3% loss after decompression)	(C)
Geolocation Database Server using MongoDB and Google Maps API	(Javascript/Python)
SQL functionalities (relational algebra)	(C++)
PPM Image rotator	(C)
8-register Universal Machine and Assembler	(C)

Notable Research Projects in International Relations

- 20 page literature review analyzing the relationship between oil wealth and insurgency in developing countries (2016)
- Smaller research papers include an analysis of post-conflict reconstruction in Sri Lanka, urban migration in Syria, and a report on aggregate polling techniques.