

# AVERY THOMPSON

Entry-Level Python Developer

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Recent Computer Science graduate with a strong academic record (GPA 3.92/4.00) and hands-on experience building Python-based applications and data-processing tools. Comfortable with core Python concepts, scripting, and basic backend logic, plus elementary experience with SQL and simple front-end pages (HTML/CSS). Looking for an entry-level Python developer role where I can grow my skills in production-grade development, databases, and modern frameworks.

## EDUCATION

### Midwest State University

Aug 2021 – May 2025

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Springfield, IL | GPA: **3.92 / 4.00** DEAN'S LIST (ALL SEMESTERS)

Relevant Coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Software Engineering, Database Systems, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, Discrete Mathematics, Operating Systems, Web Development, Probability & Statistics.

## ACADEMIC & PERSONAL PROJECTS

### Personal Finance Tracker (Python CLI Tool)

Solo Project | Jan 2025 – Mar 2025

Technologies: Python, pandas, matplotlib, CSV, basic file I/O

- Designed and implemented a command-line application to track income, expenses, and monthly budgets using Python.
- Built data ingestion logic to parse CSV bank statements, categorize transactions, and compute summary statistics such as category totals and savings rate.
- Generated simple visualizations (bar and line charts) with matplotlib to show spending trends over time.
- Structured the codebase using functions and small classes to separate data loading, processing, and reporting logic.

**What I did:** Requirements definition, application architecture, Python implementation, testing on sample data, and documentation in a README.

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

### Languages

Python (strong),  
SQL (elementary),  
Java (introductory),  
JavaScript (very basic)

### Python & Libraries

Core Python (data structures, OOP, modules), pandas, NumPy, matplotlib, scikit-learn (intro), requests, BeautifulSoup

### Web & Front End

HTML5, CSS3 (basic layouts, forms, tables), Flask (basic routing/templates)

### Databases

SQLite, basic SQL queries (SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, simple JOINs)

### Tools & Practices

Git/GitHub, VS Code, Jupyter Notebook, basic unit testing, virtual environments, command-line usage

### Concepts

Data structures & algorithms, object-oriented programming, basic REST concepts, debugging & logging, basic software design

## ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

**What I learned:** Practical use of Python for real-world scripting; modular design; working with tabular data in pandas; basic data visualization; importance of clear function boundaries and docstrings.

### Movie Recommendation System (Class Project)

Team of 4 | Sep 2024 –  
Dec 2024

Technologies: Python, scikit-learn, NumPy, pandas, Git, Jupyter Notebook

- Served as team lead for a semester-long project to build a simple movie recommendation prototype based on user ratings and content features.
- Implemented data preprocessing pipelines to clean, normalize, and split a 100K+ record movie ratings dataset into training and test sets.
- Experimented with baseline recommendation approaches (user-based and item-based similarity) and evaluated accuracy with mean absolute error.
- Coordinated version control with Git and GitHub, managed pull requests, and maintained a clear project structure and documentation.

**What I did:** Took responsibility for dataset exploration, feature engineering, evaluation scripts, and writing the technical report section on methodology and results.

**What I learned:** End-to-end workflow for a small data science project; practical model evaluation; basic collaboration with Git; communicating technical results to non-experts in presentations.

### Web Scraper & Minimal Dashboard

Solo Project | Jun 2024 – Jul 2024

Technologies: Python, requests, BeautifulSoup, Flask (basic), HTML/CSS (basic)

- Created a Python script to scrape product prices from a small e-commerce site and store results in CSV files for simple trend tracking.
- Built a very simple Flask-based dashboard that reads the CSV and displays a table of items with their latest price and a basic change indicator.
- Used elementary HTML and CSS to layout the dashboard page with a single responsive table and basic styling.

**What I did:** Implemented scraping logic, basic error handling (e.g., retries, timeouts), CSV persistence, and a minimal Flask route to render data into an HTML template.

**What I learned:** Fundamentals of HTTP requests, HTML parsing, very basic web application structure, and how frontend HTML/CSS ties together with backend Python rendering.

### Student Enrollment Database (Intro to Databases)

Team of 3 | Jan 2024 – May 2024

- Graduated *magna cum laude*, GPA 3.92/4.00.
- Dean's List for 8 consecutive semesters.
- Top 5% in "Data Structures & Algorithms" and "Database Systems" courses.
- Completed an independent study on Python scripting for automating file and data processing tasks.

## PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- **Programming Club Member** (2022 – 2025) – Participated in weekly coding challenges and group workshops focused on Python and algorithmic problem solving.
- **Hackathon Participant** – Built a small prototype that automated creation of study flashcards from lecture notes using Python text processing.
- **Open Source Contributions (Small)** – Submitted minor documentation and test improvements to a small Python utility on GitHub.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Location:** Open to relocation within the U.S. and remote-friendly roles.
- **Work Authorization:** Eligible to work in the United States with no sponsorship required.
- **Learning Focus:** Currently studying deeper SQL (joins, indexing, normalization), Flask/FastAPI for backend

Technologies: Python, SQLite, elementary SQL (SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, simple JOIN)

- Collaborated on a lightweight enrollment system to manage students, courses, and registrations using a SQLite database.
- Wrote Python scripts to create tables, insert sample data, and run parameterized queries to view enrollments and course rosters.
- Implemented a command-line menu to execute common operations such as “add student,” “list courses,” and “view student schedule.”

**What I did:** Focused on basic SQL queries, simple schema design, and Python database integration using SQLite’s Python API.

**What I learned:** Elementary relational database concepts, writing simple SQL statements, handling connections/cursors, and basic input validation for user-provided data.

development, and writing more robust tests in Python.

## EXPERIENCE

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**Computer Science Tutor (Python & Intro Programming)** Midwest State University |  
Jan 2023 – May 2025

Springfield, IL

- Assisted first-year students with Python programming fundamentals, including variables, control flow, functions, lists, and dictionaries.
- Helped debug common issues in assignments, reinforcing concepts like off-by-one errors, incorrect conditionals, and improper use of loops.
- Explained problem-solving strategies and how to break down tasks into smaller functions or steps.

**Key skills gained:** Explaining technical topics clearly, reading and understanding unfamiliar code quickly, and reinforcing my own core Python knowledge.