# TALHA MAHMOOD

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## EDUCATION

**Bachelor of Computer Science**, University of Delaware — Expected Spring 2025
GPA **3.99**
Concentration **AI & Robotics**
Minor **Mathematics**

## RESEARCH INTEREST

I am interested in Machine Learning, Computer Vision, Multi-Modal AI, and NLP with applications across sciences, and other real-world challenges.

## PUBLICATIONS

1st Author, *Unveiling Hidden Meadows: Seagrass Classification Using Multispectral Imaging* , Manuscript in preparation; available upon request.

## EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant at Cybersecurity and AI for Sciences Lab** — May 2024 - Present
University of Delaware — *Newark, DE*

- Conducted research on image segmentation using multi-spectral image data of coastal marine ecosystems, fine-tuning Vision Transformers and other state-of-the-art deep learning models.
- Performed data preprocessing to resolve labeling inconsistencies and implemented advanced techniques to address class imbalance and challenges with a small dataset.
- Improved the accuracy from 30% to 93% by implementing advanced techniques to optimize model performance.

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** — Spring 2025
University of Delaware — *Newark, DE*

- Teaching Assistant for Automata Theory course conducted office hours & graded HW

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** — Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024
University of Delaware — *Newark, DE*

- Served as Teaching Assistant for Data Structures course, conducted office hours & laboratory sessions to provide one-on-one support and clarify complex algorithmic concepts for students
- Evaluated students' algorithmic implementations by reviewing and analyzing their code, providing detailed feedback to improve their programming skills and understanding of data structures

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** — Fall 2024
University of Delaware — *Newark, DE*

- Led instructional support as Teaching Assistant for General Computer Science for Engineers, Introduction to Computer Science I and their honors sections, facilitating student learning in Python programming, algorithmic thinking, and software design principles
- Provided comprehensive academic support through regular office hours, debugging assistance, and one-on-one mentoring, helping students master core programming concepts and develop problem-solving skills
- Supported diverse learning needs across both standard and honors sections, adapting teaching methods to accommodate different skill levels while fostering an inclusive learning environment

**Summer Scholar** Summer 2024
University of Delaware *Newark, DE*

- Conducted experimental analysis of Multi-Modal Spatial-Temporal Vision Transformer (MMST-ViT) model performance for soybean yield prediction using Tiny-CropNet dataset, evaluating various activation functions and achieving optimal results (highest $R^2$ of 0.99, correlation of 1.0)
- Optimized model parameters through systematic testing of different optimizers, achieving best-performing optimizer with lowest RMSE of 5.72
- Analyzed performance metrics across different model configurations, including various backbones, to enhance crop yield predictions, contributing to improved agricultural planning and decision-making capabilities.

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** Summer 2024
University of Delaware *Newark, DE*

- Teaching Assistant for Intro to Mobile Robot Programming course, supported students in their learning of Robot Operating System (ROS) fundamentals, including robot control, perception algorithms, and path planning for autonomous systems.
- Supported hands-on lab sessions with state-of-the-art platforms like CAR Lab Indoor Connected Autonomous Testbed and D-STAR BlueICE, enhancing students' practical skills in mobile robotics and autonomous driving

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** Fall 2022, Spring 2023
University of Delaware *Newark, DE*

- Guided students in developing abstract computational models across diverse topics, including primitive data types, fixed-size data structures, and variable-length lists through hands-on BlockPy programming sessions
- Facilitated weekly practicum sessions and worksheets focused on essential programming concepts including function composition, recursion, and algorithmic patterns while maintaining 95% student engagement, for General Computer Science for Engineers

## PRESENTATIONS

Presented my work on multi-class image segmentation for coral reef ecosystems using Vision Transformers and U-Net in the Intro to Machine Learning course.

Presented research poster Multi-Modal Spatial-Temporal Vision Transformer for Crop Yield Prediction at *Symposium For Undergraduate Research And Creative Activity*, showcasing optimization techniques and model performance analysis (August 2024)

Presented research on Towards Interpretable Machine Learning for U.S. Hospitals' CMS Rankings at the *Data Science Institute's (DSI) Symposium* (September 2023)

## HONORS & AWARDS

Received *Most Impactful Project Award* at Data Science Institute Symposium for innovative application of machine learning to healthcare quality assessment

## SKILLS

**Languages** Python, C++, C, Java
**Frameworks** PyTorch, OpenCV, TensorFlow, NumPY, Pandas

## RELATED COURSES

Intro to Machine Learning, Intro to AI, Intro to Computer Vision, Machine Learning for Time Series Analysis