YOSEF D. STIFANOS

yosefstifanos30@gmail.com | 217-281-1985 | https://www.linkedin.com/in/yosefstifanos/
U.S. Citizen in Champaign-Urbana & Chicago Metro, IL (Open to relocation)

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign   **Urbana, Illinois**
B.S. in Information/Data Science   *Aug 2022 - Expected May 2026*
- o **Concentrations: Cybersecurity**, Data Science and Data Analytics
- o **GPA:** 3.82/4.00, *4x Dean's List*
- o **Relevant Coursework:** Data Science 1&2, Machine Learning, Risk & Cybersecurity, Fundamentals of Information Security, Privacy & Information Technology, Database Concepts and Applications, Cybersecurity Concepts & Practices, Global Fin Tech Analytics

EXPERIENCE

Freddie Mac   **McLean, Virginia**
Cybersecurity Red Team & Cyber/Technology Resilience Intern   *May 2025 – July 2025*
- Participated in internal tabletop exercises simulating real-world cyberattacks and recovery scenarios.
- Assisted in documenting and analyzing attack vectors, lateral movement techniques, and impact mapping.
- Used ServiceNow to track vulnerabilities, automate remediation workflows, and reduce MTTR.
- Assisted in tracking and reporting technology vulnerabilities and remediation progress, helping ensure timely risk mitigation across systems.

Algoverse AI Research   **Remote, Palo Alto, California**
Machine Learning Research Intern   *Aug 2025 – Present*
- Earned 30% scholarship for competitive AI research fellowship, conducting original ML research under PhD mentorship
- Developing publication-ready research paper targeting NeurIPS/EMNLP conferences in collaborative team environment
- Participating in 12-week structured research program with weekly lectures and mentorship from PhD-level advisors

Google x MMC   **Remote, California & New York**
Cybersecurity Scholar   *Aug 2025 – Present*
- Selected to participate in the Fall 2025 Google Cybersecurity program through the Mentor Me Collective.
- Engaged in hands-on training focused on identifying, mitigating, and preventing cybersecurity threats.
- Learning to use industry-standard tools including Python, Linux, SIEM, IDS, and AI for threat detection.
- Preparing for roles such as Cybersecurity Analyst, SOC Analyst, and Incident Response Specialist.

Engineering IT   **Urbana, Illinois**
Engineering Consultant L1   *April 2025 – Present*
- Act as a primary technical advisor and escalation point for AV-related issues across campus, providing faculty with responsive, solution-oriented support to maintain continuity in instruction.
- Provide Tier 1–2 support and troubleshoot AV/IT incidents through remote and hands-on methods.
- Supported digital signage rollout with Korbyt and maintained documentation for lifecycle asset tracking.

Vivacity Tech PBC   **Remote, St. Paul, Minnesota**
Software Engineer Intern – Quality Engineering   *Jan 2024 – June 2024*
- Enhanced system security posture by identifying and reporting logic flaws during QA.
- Aligned QA processes with development goals, improving workflow integration by 10% across teams.
- Reduced test cycle times by 20% by integrating automated testing into CI/CD pipelines.

University of Illinois Technology Services   **Urbana, Illinois**
IT Operations Assistant/Analyst   *Sep 2022 – Feb 2025*
- Delivered exceptional IT support to 500+ users monthly, achieving 95% same-day resolution rates and slashing system downtime by 40% through strategic troubleshooting.
- Engineered comprehensive analytics system that accelerated training by 30% and boosted team efficiency 25%, driving data-informed decisions.
- Transformed IT infrastructure security, cutting software issues in half and reducing security incidents by 60% across 200+ systems.

PROJECTS

NIST Password Generator + Passphrase Tool   **Urbana, Illinois**
Independent Owner   *July 2025*
- Built a browser-based password generator compliant with NIST SP 800-63B standards.
- Integrated the **Have I Been Pwned API** to detect compromised passwords and enhance credential hygiene.
- **Tools**: HTML, JavaScript, Fetch API, Web UI, Cybersecurity Standards

Predictive Modeling on Game Sales and Playtime   **Urbana, Illinois**
Group Lead   *Dec 2024*
- Developed regression and classification models to forecast game sales and playtime behavior.
- Engineered features, trained/tested models, and evaluated performance using R^2, AUC, and RMSE.
- **Technologies Used**: Python, Scikit-Learn, Statsmodels, Linear Regression, Logistic Regression, Classification, Model Evaluation

ACTIVITIES AND LEADERSHIP

NSBE Member – Coordinated STEM workshops for local schools, increasing outreach by 30%.
SIGPwny – Participated in weekly red/blue security workshops and CTF competitions focused on real-world hacking techniques.

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, SQL
Tools and Software: Git, Jira, Jupyter Notebooks, Korbyt, MySQL, MongoDB (NoSQL)
Libraries/Frameworks: Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn
Certifications: Google Cybersecurity (currently in-progress), CompTIA Security+ (currently in-progress)
Cybersecurity: CIA, OSI Model, MITRE ATT&CK, ServiceNow, Kali Linux, NMAP