

YUSUF AHMAD

60 Wadsworth St. Cambridge, MA 02142 | yusufa@mit.edu | +1.410.615.3602

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA Aug 2018 – Present
Masters in Media Arts and Sciences. Advised by Mitchell Resnick.

Columbia University, New York, NY May 2012
Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies GPA: 3.94
• Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, John Jay Scholar, Honors for Thesis Research

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Massachusetts Institute of Technology – Media Lab July 2018 - Present
Research Assistant, Lifelong Kindergarten

- Advised 20+ MIT startups as a mentor with the [MIT Sandbox Innovation Fund](#)
- Developed civic and political event aggregator and social network for 2018 elections ([CivicLink](#))
- Advised South African Ministry of Education on design & strategy for national Digital Skills Curriculum
- Ongoing research on (a) online learning communities (e.g. [Learning Creative Learning](#)) (b) open source learning design and curriculum tools (c) peer to peer learning in online (Scratch) and makerspace communities and (d) personalized learning tools to support learning by creating

[African Leadership University](#) – South Africa and Mauritius Jan 2015 – Jul 2018
Director of Degree Programs (July 2016 – Aug 2018)

- Built and led 16-person team responsible for design and delivery of 4 undergraduate degree programs (computing, electrical power systems engineering, social science, business management)
- Directed strategy (technology, credentialing, pedagogy, student experience, scale up); managed accreditation partnership; and supported faculty in learning design, facilitation, and development

Facilitator and Curriculum Designer (Jan 2015 – June 2016)

- Designed & facilitated peer learning experiments (e.g. student-led philosophy course), aspects of our first-year curriculum (humanities seminars, growth weeks, writing), and English Immersion Program
- Led 6-person team in creating training academy for entire organization (40+ people in 2015)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace - Washington, D.C. Aug 2013 – Sept 2014
[Junior Fellow](#), Democracy and Rule of Law

- Analyzed design and execution of rule of law reform and anti-corruption efforts. Projects include:
- [Developed strategies](#) to reduce electoral, urban, and organized crime violence: analyzed data and over 200 studies, identified implementation challenges, and shared lessons with practitioners
- Analyzed 25 countries for [The Corruption and Security Project](#). Illustrated findings with communications team, managed website, and prepared research for policy reports and articles

The American University in Cairo - Cairo, Egypt Aug 2012 – July 2013
Presidential Intern, Office of the President

- Developed 2013-2019 university enrollment strategy: modelled enrollment trends and targets; interviewed stakeholders; designed and piloted new admission process with faculty and staff
- Co-designed and won a \$400,000 Silatech grant to enhance civic engagement and employment outcomes at universities in Egypt, Lebanon, and Morocco; collaborated with faculty to plan programs
- Awarded President's *Catalyst for Change Award* for outstanding service to the university (May 2013)

LANGUAGES, SKILLS, INTERESTS

Languages: Intermediate Arabic, Urdu, and Hindi; Basic Spanish, Mauritian Kreol, and Glaswegian

Skills: Facilitation, learning experience design, Policy research/writing, OpenEdX, Google Apps

Interests: History of ideas and science, Urdu Poetry, and hiking (Appalachian trail, Drakensburg)