

SYDNEY E. SHEARER

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EDUCATION

Juniata College, Huntingdon, PA

Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2022

Bachelor of Science, Data Science & Mathematics, GPA 3.96/4.0

Dean's List, all semesters

Student Member, Mathematical Association of America

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Introduction to Data Science

Statistical Consulting

Calculus I/II/III

Discrete Structures

Combinatorics

Data Acquisition

Information Visualization

Database Management Systems

Unix Programming

Android Programming

Introduction to Probability & Statistics

Multivariate Statistics (expected)

Linear Algebra

Foundations of Mathematics

Real Analysis

Machine Learning

Big Data Techniques (Master's Level)

Computer Organization

C++ Programming

Information Technology Systems

COMPUTER SKILLS

Programming languages including Python, Java, Unix, C++

Statistical software and language R/RStudio

Database software SQL

Visualization software Tableau

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Data Science Across Disciplines Research Experience for Undergraduates

May 2021 – August 2021

Marquette University (through National Science Foundation), Milwaukee, WI

(virtual)

- Collaborated one-on-one with Dr. Sabirat Rubya to research "Preventing Perinatal Mental Health Problems" in hopes of creating a technological approach to assisting with perinatal mental health care (<https://reu.cs.mu.edu/index.php/User:SShearer>)
- Conducted a systematic literature review of approximately 90 papers and drafted literature review paper to be published
- Presented to a group of REU fellows about findings from the systematic literature review

Institutional Research

January 2021 – present

Juniata College Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Huntingdon, PA

- Created random forest models to predict student retention rates and common factors associated with retention to assist College in decision-making that will effectively boost rates
 - Results of random forest analysis are currently being utilized by various offices at the College to assist in identifying at-risk students
- Presented final report on student retention rates to Juniata's Board of Trustees
- Collected data from an internal database system to provide reports for Juniata faculty and staff about various student and course related data
- Created and updated various public Tableau visualizations to display College-related data (<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/juniata.college>)
- Met weekly with Office of Institutional Effectiveness members to prioritize goals

TRIPODS+X:EDU Research Experience for Undergraduates

May 2020 – July 2020

Valparaiso University (through National Science Foundation), Valparaiso, IN

- Researched "Investigations of Student Difficulties in Data Science Instruction" with five student researchers and Drs. Ruth Wertz, Katherine Kinnaird, Karl Schmitt, and Bjorn Sandstede (<https://scholar.valpo.edu/sires/69/>)
- Created a methodology to categorize qualitative survey responses from introductory data science courses in a quantitative manner
- Collaborated on writing an internal white paper and presenting methodological findings internally

Introductory Research Student

January 2019 – May 2019

Juniata College Department of Mathematics, Huntingdon, PA

- Studied various patterns in a differing counting system with a group of two student researchers and a faculty mentor to learn how to appropriately conduct mathematical researcher
- Wrote a collaborative internal research paper with two other student researchers to demonstrate findings

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Community Advisor

August 2021 – present

Juniata College Office of Campus Life, Huntingdon, PA

- Supervised a staff of four residential assistants to provide them guidance in their roles and work on professional development, including communication, team building, and time management
- Performed administrative tasks for my staff, including overseeing a budget, submitting paperwork, and assisting with resident check-ins
- Provided duty coverage for campus on a rotating basis with other Community Advisors to enforce College policy and ensure the safety and security of all residential students
- Mediated conflicts between residents using active and passive communication strategies to find solutions best suited for all parties involved
- Articulated to student staff and residents the philosophy and policies of the College and Office of Campus Life including establishing a community that is tolerant, respectful, and inclusive

Data Science Help Desk Associate

January 2020 – August 2021

Juniata College Department of Data Science, Huntingdon, PA

- Assisted students with homework issues in master's level data science courses including Data Acquisition & Visualization, Linear Algebra, Discrete Structures, and Python Programming
- Proctored examinations for students through Zoom

Resident Assistant

August 2019 – May 2021

Juniata College Office of Campus Life, Huntingdon, PA

- Managed a floor of approximately 40 undergraduate students per year and provided residents with appropriate campus resources
- Mediated conflicts between residents using active and passive communication strategies to find solutions best suited for all parties involved
- Conducted bi-weekly events to promote personal and professional development of residents
- Provided duty coverage for a building on a rotating basis with other Resident Assistants to enforce College policy and ensure the safety and security of residential students

Peer Tutor

March 2019 – May 2021

Juniata College Office of Learning Services, Huntingdon, PA

- Aided students in reviewing materials for various mathematics and computer science courses
- Provided necessary resources to assist students in developing study skills and homework techniques

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-Choreographer

August 2020 – present

Juniata College Kickline Dance Team, Huntingdon, PA

- Choreographed four dances per semester for a team of 10 dancers to perform at various sports events
- Choreographed five dances for a group of 18 dancers to perform at charity pageant event
- Coordinated charity pageant event, including preparing participants, organizing locations, and handling finances

Classroom Grader

January 2020 – April 2020

Juniata College Department of Computer Science, Huntingdon, PA

- Graded Computer Science II homework assignments in a team of three for a class of approximately 30 students

President, Vice President, Executive Chair

August 2019 – present

Juniata College Dance Ensemble, Huntingdon, PA

- Organized one recital per semester, including coordinating choreographers, booking spaces, and handling finances

Treasurer

August 2019 – May 2021

Juniata College Null Set Math Club, Huntingdon, PA

- Managed a yearly budget for club-related activities
- Assisted club president with event planning

Campus Tour Guide

August 2019 – May 2020

Juniata College Admissions Office, Huntingdon, PA

- Provided prospective students and their families with personalized tour of the College's campus
- Attended monthly preparation meetings to gain more knowledge of the College

Eagle Ambassador Student Recruiter

August 2018 – May 2019

Juniata College Admissions Office, Huntingdon, PA

- Volunteered to attend luncheons with prospective students to provide them with information with the College and related activities