

Samuel Utzinger

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Northern Arizona University (NAU)

Bachelors of Data Science *Minor in German*

Letter of Introduction

After several years of solo Hackathons and projects, I started at RESHAPE in Jan 2025 as an **Undergraduate research assistant** working with Igor Steinacher and Pedro Arantes (PHD). After **developing and deploying a full-stack web application** for NAU, currently in active use, my focus shifted to empirical research and organisational work for the group.

I take part in ongoing research efforts in the context of the research project DisTrack at the RESHAPE lab. In said context, I completed my first published work in the **International Conference of Software Engineering**, the premier software engineering conference. I submitted to the SRC and the research received **2nd place**. I'm planning for the first full publication in **ICSME** (Software Maintenance and Evolution) 2026.

In addition to my research activities, I am **NAU Data Science Club President** and have led a project with NAU Math Department providing analytics for MAT 125. I completed a remote software engineering **internship** with Brickfort (UK) in Summer 2025 and a semester exchange at the University of Zurich. I am also employed by the NAU Center for International Education.

Key Highlights

- 2024–presnt **Undergraduate Research Assistant** (2nd place ICSE SRC)
RESHAPE Lab
Northern Arizona University
- 2025–present **President of Data Science Club**
RESHAPE Lab
Northern Arizona University
- Summer 2025 **Remote Internship**
[Brickfort](#), UK
- 2023–2024 **Study Abroad Assistant**
Center of International Education
Northern Arizona University

Research Experience

Research Software Development

Undergraduate Research Assistant RESHAPE Lab NAU | Jan 2025 – Present

- Lead development of a Research on developer disengagement and OSS sustainability
- Developed an ML pipeline that can predict users activity using LSTM.
- Dashboard visualization and pipeline app development.
- 2nd place at International conference software engineering SRC
- Internal NAU funding (~\$25K TRIF grant)
- First-author research trajectory
- Presented internationally
- ICSE SRC paper (2nd place)
- ICSME full paper (in progress)
- Collaborators: Igor Steinacher, Pedro Arantes

[GitHub repo](#)

[Paper](#)

Professional Experience

Data / Technical Intern

Brickfort (Remote, UK) Summer 2025]

- Worked in setting up an algorithmic trading account for a business consulting startup.
- Worked with one other in an international remote teammate: Fiza Shibly.
- Result: A business QuantConnect account that provides research, backtesting, live algorithmic trading for consulting and the start of an algorithmic trading program using small capital London stock exchange businesses for investment strategies.
- [Journal link](#)

Software Developer

School of Informatics, Computing, and Cyber Systems (SICCS) | Winter 2025

- Built event attendance tracking application
- Deployed with NAU SICCS with a max of 50 students signing in.
- Full-stack CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) system
- Authentication + backend logic
- [GitHub repo](#)
- WEBSITE LINK TO COME

Study Abroad Assistant

Center for International Education (CIE) | Winter 2025

- Public speaking in classrooms
- Student advising

- Communication
- Content production
- Professional coordination
- Social media management (video + outreach)
- [LINKS ON WEBSITE TO PORTFOLIO](#)

Projects

- 2026 **ICSE 2026 — Student Research Competition (2nd Place)**
Co-advised by Dr. Igor Steinmacher and Dr. Marco Gerosa
Northern Arizona University
- 2026 **ASA DataFest**
Northern Arizona University
- 2026 **Capstone Project**
Co-advised by Dr. Robert Buscaglia
Northern Arizona University
Thesis title: *“Disparities of Death in the United States: Extending the Standardized Mortality Ratio”*
- 2025 **NAU Data Science Club**
Math Department
Hosted DataFestGitHub
- 2025 **NAU Full-Stack Web Application**
School of Informatics, Computing, and Cyber Systems
- 2024 **Animal Hack 2024**
“[Excellence in Research](#)” Award
[*Ethical Implications and Primary Purposes of Wildlife Trade*](#)
- 2023 **ETH Datathon**
University of Zurich
[datathon.ai](#)
- (Planned Submission) **ICSME 2026 (Planned Submission)**
Northern Arizona University

Invited Talks

- 2026 **Nithya Ruff**
Chair of Linux Foundation Board
Presented work in OSS

2025 Engineering Fest Poster Presentations

Northern Arizona University

“Early Forecasting of Developer Inactivity in Open Source Projects”

2025 Undergraduate Research Symposium

Northern Arizona University

“Predictive Modeling of OSS Developers Activity”

Education

Bachelors Data Science

Northern Arizona University (2024–2026)

- B.S. Data Science (Minor: German)
- Graduating: May 2026
- Dean’s List (2024–2026)
- Study Abroad: Switzerland (UZH, 8 months)
- GPA:3.35

Tucson High Magnet School

Northern Arizona University (2024–2026)

- GPA: 3.82
- Track & Field (Pole Vault — Top 3 State)
- Wrestling
- Teaching Assistant (Precalculus)

Skills

- Python, ML, Data Analysis
- GitHub data mining
- Full-stack development
- APIs (CDC WONDER, Rest, etc.)
- Streamlit
- Git
- Data pipelines

Global Skills

- Citizenship: US / UK / Switzerland
- Languages: English (Fluent), German (Intermediate)