

SAMEEL SYED

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Education

Master of Data Science *University of British Columbia* Vancouver, BC • Expected June 2026

Average: 90.8% • MDS Scholarship for IBPOC Students (\$15,000)

B.A. Computer Science & Neuroscience, Magna Cum Laude *Skidmore College* Saratoga Springs, NY • May 2024

GPA: 3.86 • Phi Beta Kappa • Dean's List • Davis Scholarship (\$25,000/yr)

Research Experience

Research Assistant *Vecsey Lab, Skidmore College* Saratoga Springs, NY • Jan 2022 – May 2022

- Designed a proposal to quantify the effect of vibrational stimulation on sleep in *Drosophila melanogaster*, applying experimental design principles to develop testable hypotheses.
- Performed wet-lab work including fly sexing, feeding, and specimen preparation to support ongoing experiments run by senior lab members.
- Collaborated with lab members to execute experiments and maintained accurate records of methodologies and findings.

Exploratory Researcher *Peterson Research Group, Skidmore College* Saratoga Springs, NY • Sep 2022 – Dec 2022

- Reviewed literature on the spread of online misinformation, focusing on psychological dimensions during the 2016 US election and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Designed an original experiment examining misinformation-sharing behaviours among college students, developing survey methodology and data collection protocols.

Data & Analytics Experience

Data Analyst Intern *Snow Data Science* Remote (Houston, TX) • Jun 2024 – Aug 2024

- Built interactive Tableau dashboards tracking four core KPIs, enabling clients to identify new revenue opportunities across industry sales trends.
- Queried and cleaned transaction-level consumer data using SQL to perform customer segmentation and campaign performance analysis for multiple enterprise clients.
- Translated analytical findings into actionable recommendations that directly informed client marketing strategy.

Marketing Analyst Intern *Japanz International* Manzini, Eswatini • Jun 2023 – Aug 2023

- Analysed competitor pricing and dealership sales data in Excel to develop a data-driven pricing framework for Volkswagen vehicles.
- Produced market analysis reports to guide pricing strategy under changing import regulations and rising logistics costs.
- Collaborated cross-functionally with Sales and Market Research to implement pricing strategies that improved competitive positioning and profitability.

Other Professional Experience

Middle School Math Teacher *Success Academy — Rockaway Park MS* Queens, NY • Aug 2024 – Aug 2025

- Analysed student assessment data to identify learning gaps and adjust lesson plans, improving average quiz scores by ~20% over the academic year.
- Prepared 8th grade students for State Regents Examinations through targeted tutoring and creation of structured study guides and exam prep materials.
- Advised a cohort of 10 students, conducting regular parent outreach to ensure each advisee's educational needs were met.

Food Runner / Expeditor *Tasty Indian Bistro* Vancouver, BC • Sep 2025 – Present

- Confirm dishes meet allergy and customer specifications before service; triage kitchen-to-floor discrepancies and coordinate between kitchen and front-of-house.

Catering Supervisor *Skidmore College Catering* Saratoga Springs, NY • Sep 2021 – Jun 2024

- Delegated tasks, trained new staff on SOPs and equipment, and coordinated event logistics to ensure smooth, timely service

across concurrent events.

- Supported kitchen operations and coordinated packaged meal distribution for quarantined students during COVID-19.

Sales Representative *Japanz International*

Manzini, Eswatini • Jan 2020 – Jul 2020

- Managed the full sales cycle for vehicle purchases — qualifying leads, presenting financing options, coordinating internally, and closing deals; generated 21 purchases through targeted outreach.
- Established and managed the company's Facebook presence to support lead generation.

Projects

Smart Amazon Product Query Assistant Python, BM25, FAISS, sentence-transformers, LangChain, DuckDB, Shiny

- Built an information retrieval and question-answering system over the Amazon Reviews 2023 dataset, implementing and benchmarking BM25 (keyword) and semantic search (embedding-based) retrievers.
- Combined both into a hybrid retriever and extended with a RAG pipeline powered by an LLM; evaluated retrieval and answer quality across both modes.
- Deployed an interactive Shiny app allowing end-to-end querying in both search and RAG modes.

Uber 2024 Ride Data Dashboard

Python, Shiny, Plotly, DuckDB, pandas

- Developed an interactive dashboard analysing Uber's 2024 ride data — bookings, revenue, cancellations, and ratings across vehicle types and geographies.
- Implemented the full data workflow from cleaning and EDA through KPI design and dashboard deployment.

Breast Cancer Predictor

Python, pandas, NumPy, scikit-learn, Altair, Docker, Quarto

- Built an SVM classifier to predict whether breast tumours are benign or malignant from digitised cell-nuclei measurements; implemented preprocessing, feature selection, scaling, and 15-fold grid-search hyperparameter tuning.
- Achieved 96% accuracy on held-out validation data; packaged with Docker and documented in a reproducible Quarto report.

Dashboard: The Massachusetts Educational Landscape

Tableau, VizQL

- Visualised trends across 1,800 Massachusetts schools, highlighting relationships between socioeconomic variables and graduation rates for a general audience.

iFood: Customer and Campaign Analysis

Excel

- Analysed customer demographics, product preferences, and campaign responses to identify high-value segments driving 83% of revenue; recommended targeted strategies based on consumer behaviour trends.

Chess Engines and GUI

Python, Pygame, NumPy

- Implemented chess bots using SARSA, minimax with alpha-beta pruning, and Q-learning; built an interactive GUI for play against the engines.

Summarize: LLM-Driven Note-Taking App

Swift, UIKit, AVFoundation, Firebase

- Co-developed an iOS app that uses an LLM backend to generate and store summaries from speech or text input.

Volunteer Experience

Volunteer Staff *SAWS (AWARE)*

Mbabane, Eswatini • Jan 2019 – Nov 2019

- Socialised stray and abused dogs to improve adoption rates; collaborated with the national Department of Veterinary Services to organise and carry out spay clinics.
- Assisted veterinarians during surgery by suturing incisions, monitoring vitals, and administering vaccines.
- Conducted community outreach on animal care, vaccination, and the importance of spaying and neutering.

Technical Skills

Programming: Python, R, SQL, Java, Bash, Swift

Data & ML: pandas, NumPy, scikit-learn, FAISS, sentence-transformers, LangChain, Tableau, Excel, Altair, Plotly

Tools: Git, GitHub, Docker, Jupyter, DuckDB, Conda, VS Code, Shiny

Languages: English, Urdu (fluent) • French, Spanish, Punjabi (intermediate)