Cracking the Code

Personal and Professional Development

So, where do we begin?

- Internships are great ways to **get exposure into a field or company you are interested and helps with getting your foot into the corporate world** (think post-college)

- Biggest key you can do is to **focus on your personal and professional brand**

- **Aim for underclassmen opportunities** 🎯

- Ways to **build your portfolio**
  - Side Projects
  - Research
  - Hackathons

Some opportunities to check out!

Look into Frosh/Soph Specific Programs like internships, research, externships

- **UIUC PURE** Research
- **NCSA SPIN**
- **Anything @ Research Park**
- **Course Staff in CS classes**
- **RSOs**
- **Conferences/Conventions**
  - MLH
  - GHC
  - ThinkChicago Lollapalooza

- **Google**
  - STEP
  - Summer of Code
- **Meta** University
- **Microsoft**
  - Explore (SWE + PM)
  - New Technologist
- **Synchrony BLP**
- **Externships**

Resume Advice

- Always **use black and white for your resume.** Blue is fine too. Any flashy color is a turn off - *Karen from HR will cringe*

- Make it on **Word Doc or LaTeX**

- **General Format to follow**
  - Header
  - Education
  - Experiences
  - Projects
  - Skills

Resume Advice

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- When you list relevant coursework, **DO NOT PUT IRRELEVANT COURSES**
  - *Karen from HR **DOES NOT CARE** if you took **BBQ Science** if you're applying for **SWE Internship***
  - *Karen from HR **DOES CARE** if you took **Data Structures** or **Systems Programming***
- Make sure everything is relevant and **QUANTIFY IMPACT and SPECIFY TOOLs where possible**
- **Use Word Doc or LaTeX (run thru ATS)**
- **Save file as "YourName LastName Resume".pdf**

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign *Expected Dec. 2023*
B.S. Applied Mathematics **GPA:** 3.93/4.00

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ameren Champaign, IL
Data Scientist *May 2022 - Present*

· Instructed a team of 3 interns to conduct research into load monitoring and collect data with Python and SQL
· Created multiple SQL queries enabling efficient retrieval of over **200,000** customer records and user profiles
· Constructed various workshops to teach new Python skills such as scikit-learn and Tensorflow to other interns

How does our resume look like?

you + online

Linkedin Advice

- Think of it as your **resume but on social media**
- **Include any activities, experiences, awards, projects, etc** on there that you feel are relevant that won't be able to fit into your resume
- *Make custom linkedin url*
- What you *should* really focus on putting out there
  - The Headline
  - Experience
  - Education
    - **Only put UIUC, not your HS**
  - Projects or anything that speaks best to you (research, article you wrote, etc)

9

Custom Linkedin URLs

🔗 **Edit your custom URL**

Personalize the URL for your profile.

www.linkedin.com/in/davidzan ✏️

See prior custom URLs that might be linked to you ⌄

Assigned URL cannot be changed.
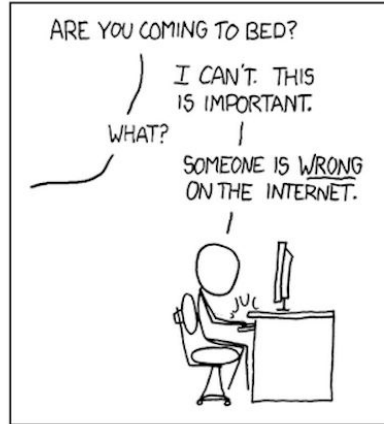
www.linkedin.com/in/david-an-477178106 🔒

you + running

On empathy and being yourself

- You are your **own** advocate
  - Basically, you are your own billboard and advertising
- Empathy is an underrated tool
- Succeeding in any environment: **Humble**, **Hungry**, and **Smart**
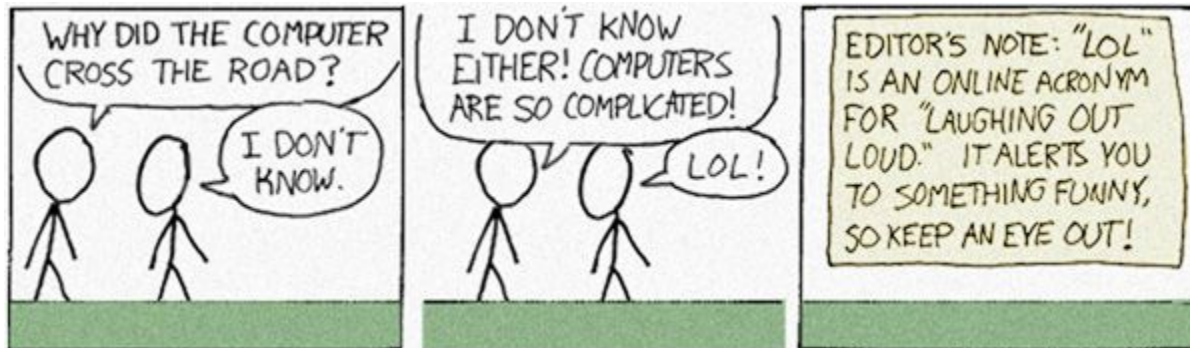
Career Fair Battleplans

- How do you make yourself stand out from the crowd

    - Keep memorable conversations and follow up effectively
    - Great way to brush up on your elevator pitch
    - Try to scope out companies before hand and target those, use other ones you aren't interested in as practice
    - How can **you** stand out from everyone else applying and talking to

The momentum of **running**

- College is a great place (we all know that)

- You get many opportunities thrown at you
  - Take any opportunity and **run** with it

- The momentum of flywheels

Links:

RP Guide: https://bit.ly/rp-guide22

Links to Campus Resources: https://bit.ly/uiuc-links

Thank You!

David An
davidan.dev

Connect with me!!