E.RAY GARD

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Domestic Experience

Machine Learning & Data Science Certificates **Stanford Online & Udemy**

Stanford Online: Machine Learning with Andrew Ng January 2020

Udemy: Python for Machine Learning & Data Science Bootcamp by J. Portilla July 2020

- Refined Python coding skills for data analysis and modeling, including experience with standard data science packages (numpy, pandas, matplotlib, seaborn, sklearn).
- Developed working knowledge of libraries and applications:
- Logistic Regression
- Artificial Neural Network
- Machine Learning (ML) Algorithms

Agricrafty Services **Austin, TX**

Regenerative Land Mgmt and Ag Production Consultant 2017-Present

- Provide production and land use planning services for small to midsize organic vegetable producers
- Help food and ag businesses cut costs and increase production through technical trainings, improved soil health and organic IPM practices.
- Empower stakeholders to improve biodiversity, watershed impact, and long term soil health

Texas State University **San Marcos, TX**

University Lecturer 2019-January 2020

- Agronomic Crops
- Introduction to Agricultural Engineering

Fond Bone Broth **Austin, TX**

Austin Area Channel Manager 2018-2019

- Contribute expertise and familiarity with local vegetable producers and growing seasons to sourcing decisions in line with company core values of local and regenerative ingredients
- Lead efforts to increase new sales and existing accounts for the entire Austin market of CPG startup
- Coordinate all deliveries to wholesale customers in the Austin market
- Manage Austin area farmers markets sales, staff members and relationships

Austin Community College **Austin, TX**

Instructor: Sustainable Agriculture Program 2017

- Integrated Pest Management
- Soil Science

Farmshare: Austin **Austin, TX**

Farm Educator/Educational Programs Manager 2015-2017

- Developed education strategy and curriculum for all educational components of the organization, including technical instruction in farm equipment use and maintenance, and crop selection and cultivation
- Led classroom instruction for farm-based education program, giving students a complete skill set of organic farming practices and a perspective on building community-based sustainable food systems
- Marketed, Recruited, Interviewed and Managed admission process for entirety of Farmer Starter program

University of Texas School of Public Health **Brownsville, TX**

Program Manager: Community Wide Campaign 2014-2015

- Oversaw implementation of a 5 yr, $1M+ preventative community health program spanning 9 communities in the lower Rio Grande Valley
- Managed a team of admin staff and community health workers to provide training and regular preventative health programming in 9 cities through relationships with 20 community partners, including elected officials and local community health professionals
- Coordinated all operations related to program implementation, including: ongoing program evaluation, health worker training needs, community contract monitoring, community infrastructure change planning

Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station **Weslaco, TX**
Agricultural Research Coordinator 2013-2014

- Supervised application of experimental fertilizers for industrial-scale vegetable production study
- Constructed and calibrated a large scale aquaponics system for hydroponic and aquaculture studies

Areas of Interest and Technical Proficiency: Machine Learning (Python, Jupyter, Anaconda), Wordpress, Microsoft Office, Google Suite, Social Media Platforms, Google Adwords, Violin

International Experience

Permaculture Research Institute **The Channon, Australia**
Contributing Author 2012

- Covered topics: water management strategies, urban agriculture, food security and land rehabilitation

UrbanPromise: Honduras **Copan Ruinas, Honduras**
Youth and Organizational Development Assistant 2011

- Developed a strategic plan for the next 3-5 years of the organization in coordination with organization Founder/Executive Director

Bidna Capoeira **Damascus, Syria**
Development and Communications Coordinator/Instructor 2010

- Managed training and project work of local staff on web-based social media platforms to promote the organization's marketing and fundraising strategies in the region
- Instructed Capoeira twice a week to a group of Iraqi refugee youth as part of Bidna Capoeira programming

WWOOF International: France **Burgundy, France**
Program Participant 2009

- Cultivated organic fruits and vegetables with local producers for regional Farmers' Market

The United States Peace Corps **Loja, Ecuador**
Rural Extension Worker: Sustainable Agriculture/Small Business Development Program 2003-2005

- Designed, implemented and recruited staff for workshops on leadership, communication, and teamwork (in Spanish) for developing small, women-owned businesses in rural Ecuador
- Provided technical resources and organized training sessions, budgeting and instruction, necessary to produce, package and market coffee to stabilize community income and stop youth out-migration
- Represented local cooperative in talks with European Union-funded initiative to finance exports and strengthen market linkages from cultivation to coffee cup
- Built demonstration gardens with 45 elementary students to provide their school lunch program with vegetables needed in the children's diets and teach basic sustainable agriculture practices

Education and Certifications

Brandeis University **Waltham, MA**
Master of Arts: Sustainable International Development
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management
Masters Title: *Building Leadership in Honduras and Syria with Faith-based and Secular Youth-focused Non-governmental Organizations*
Selected Coursework: Monitoring and Evaluation, NGO Strategic Planning, Proposal Writing for Fundraising and Development, Masculinities and Gender in Development

Massachusetts Institute of Technology **Boston, MA**
Course: Development Lab IV: Dissemination of Innovation

Texas A&M University **College Station, TX**
Bachelors of Science in Agricultural Development

Texas A&M University Study Abroad Program: **Castiglion Fiorentino, Italy**

Selected Coursework: Intercultural Communications, Renaissance Art and Architecture

Permaculture & Regenerative Landscape Designer **Austin, TX**

Certification Holder

- Recognized practitioner of design principals inspired by natural systems to move watersheds, bioregions and human settlements beyond sustainable practices and into regenerative, abundant agriculture

Languages and Additional Skills

English: *Native Speaker* **Spanish:** *Written and Spoken Fluency* **French:** *Intermediate Conversational*
Brazilian Portuguese: *Intermediate Conversational* **Arabic:** *Beginning (Syrian)*