## INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

# **Bryant Bolyen**

<u>Graduation Semester & Year</u>: Summer 2021 **Semester & Year of Internship:** Summer 2021

**Major**: Information Technology

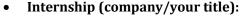
**Minor**: C&P Writing

**Hometown**: Youngwood PA

**Hobbies**: Video Games, Writing, Existential Terror

Campus Activities: Social Distancing (lol), IT Club President, Sigma Tau Delta

Future Plans/Career Goals: Web/Software Developer



Cloudcast Computing / PHP Developer

## • How did you find your internship?

Reference from a family friend.

#### What were your duties?

Assisted the development of a Web App called Lessonbank – an educational assistance tool offered to High Schools intended to facilitate online learning.

#### How many hours per week were you at your internship site?

~20+ hrs, working remotely.

#### What did you enjoy most about your internship?

I loved having the opportunity to hone my coding skills on a project that could improve the lives of students.

#### What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?

While I appreciated Cloudcast's hands-off environment, some of the tools we worked with lacked documentation, meaning that I wasted time in the onboarding process. Also, I was unfamiliar with Linux and their architecture strongly encouraged competence with shell.

## How did your experience at UPG and in the Information Technology department prepare you for your internship?

I would not have this job without Dr. Slonka's INFSCI\_1058, Web Programming. That is not an exaggeration. Not only did completing the projects in that class give me the knowledge required to impress during the interview, but without it I would not have had the PHP expertise necessary to be confident in my work.

#### How has your internship prepared you for a career?

I definitely feel more confident in my ability to interpret and modify code that I didn't write, as well as working with a team of programmers on the same project.

#### What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?

Ask questions. Make mistakes. Get to know your coworkers and supervisors. You're only human, but you still have a lot to offer.

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