

Sara Cawley

Cyber & IT Audit Risk Advisory Intern

Claremont, CA, United States | [LinkedIn](#)

Data science student with hands-on experience in cybersecurity auditing, risk advisory, and research. Built ML models, conducted SOX and SOC 2 testing, and contributed to cognitive aging research.

EXPERIENCE

Cyber & IT Audit Risk Advisory Intern

Jun 2026 — Aug 2026

Baker Tilly US

Irvine, California, United States

Performed ITGC SOX testing across authentication, user access, and change management controls. Tested SOC 1 Type 2 controls for loan administration. Updated IPE validation language for SQL queries and built a custom GPT to automate internal workflows as part of an AI capstone project.

Cybersecurity Risk Advisory Intern

Jun 2025 — Aug 2025

Baker Tilly US

Chicago, Illinois, United States

Conducted interviews and risk assessments for Agentic AI integration into internal processes. Performed HITRUST and SOC 2 controls testing across healthcare analytics and marketing systems. Synthesized audit findings into IT security reports and supported NIST readiness efforts.

Private Equity Summer Analyst

May 2024 — Aug 2024

Oceanview Capital Partners, Inc.

Glendale, California, United States

Analyzed staff response time data for healthcare concierge company, identifying operational inefficiencies and recommending improvements. Pitched automation software to a healthcare company managing 250+ staff across LA County. Shadowed sell-side M&A advisory on a dental software transaction.

Umanath Memory & Aging Lab Research Assistant

Jan 2024 — Feb 2026

Umanath Memory & Aging Lab

Claremont, California, United States

Supported experimental cognitive aging study investigating age-related differences in knowledge, memory, and intelligence self-assessments. Conducted 90–120 minute lab sessions administering cognitive assessments. Recruited older adult participants and authored the Methods section of a manuscript under review.

Residential Coordinator

Aug 2023 — Jun 2024

Scripps College

Claremont, California, United States

Served as resource person and community builder for 120 undergraduate residents. Provided roommate conflict mediation and de-escalated resident disagreements. Hosted weekly community hours and designed monthly educational bulletin boards.

Business & Finance Manager

Aug 2022 — Aug 2024

The Student Life Newspaper

Claremont, California, United States

Organized twice-weekly staff meetings for 13 writers across 20 news cycles. Assigned, edited, and published 7–10 articles weekly. Researched and wrote 1–3 articles weekly with reporting and interviews.

EDUCATION

The Swedish Program at Stockholm School of Economics

Aug 2025 — Dec 2025

Bachelor of Arts - BA in Semester Abroad

Scripps College

Sep 2023 — Jun 2026

Bachelor of Arts in Data Science, Minor in Psychology

Cumulative GPA: 3.6/4.0, James E. Scripps Scholar

Scripps College

Aug 2022 — Dec 2026

Bachelor of Arts - BA in Major: Data Science - Minor: Psychology

Walter Payton College Preparatory High School

Jan 2018 — Jan 2022

High School Diploma

Activities and societies:

- Founder and president of Positive Mental Health Association
- Captain of varsity swim & water polo teams
- National Honors Society & National Latin Honors Society
- Education Group Chair for the Mayor of Chicago's Youth Commission

PROJECTS

ML model to predict first-year college persistence from Chicago Public Schools data, Predicting College Persistence Using XGBoost & SHAP

Built XGBoost models to predict first-year college persistence using multi-year Chicago Public Schools data. Evaluated model performance against R^2 and RMSE. Analyzed feature importance using SHAP values and compared feature stability across academic years to assess model robustness.

CERTIFICATIONS

Best News Series & Best Social Justice Coverage, California College Media Association	Mar 2024
Best News Series, California College Media Association	Mar 2023
James E. Scripps Scholarship, Scripps College	Jun 2022
Senior Scholastic Player of the Year, Illinois Water Polo	May 2022
AP Scholar with Distinction, College Board	Mar 2022
Academic All-American, USA Water Polo	Jan 2020

SKILLS

Python · R · SQL · JavaScript · pandas · NumPy · scikit-learn · XGBoost · SHAP · PyTorch · tidyverse · ggplot2 · Git · Excel · SPSS · Qualtrics · Jupyter Notebook · RStudio · Machine Learning · Statistical Modeling · Data Visualization · Experimental Design · Regression Analysis · SOX Testing · HITRUST · SOC 2 · NIST