

Britney Whittington

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An aspiring software engineer with a life-long passion for astronomy.

Education

 **B.S. Computer Science, Software Engineering Track, Astronomy Minor** 08/2020 - 05/2024
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- 3.95 GPA. Magna cum laude. Dean's List every semester. Honor's College & Hill-Lopes Scholar Program
- Courses: Software Engineering | Requirements Analysis | Astrophysical Techniques | Software Testing

Work Experience

 **Space Astronomy Summer Program Intern** 06/2024 - 12/2024
SPACE TELESCOPE SCIENCE INSTITUTE *Baltimore, MD*

- Worked with Mark Giuliano and the SPIKE team to identify and visualize novel multi-year patterns in operational JWST long-range plans.
- Used Common Lisp to analyze data and Python to do further analysis, generate graphs, and create a web app.
- Integrated HST data into the system and engineered an interface for operational use.
- [Presentation recording \(2024 Session 2, 28:20\)](#)

 **Undergraduate Learning Assistant** 01/2024 - 05/2024
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- Assisted Dr. Miquel Angel Requena Torres with his Astrophysical Techniques class containing 8 students.
- Answered student questions regarding Linux, Jupyter Notebook, and Python. Assisted with telescope operations and training.

 **Teacher Assistant** 08/2023 - 05/2024
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- Assists Dr. Neda Saeedloei with her classes: Programming Languages: Design and Implementation and Artificial Intelligence.
- Hosts office hours for 40+ students and answers student questions for projects, quizzes, and assignments.
- Grades quizzes and coding projects in various languages (Java, Python, C++, Lisp).

 **Telescope Operator** 08/2021 - 05/2024
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- Worked with Dr. Jennifer Scott and Dr. Dylan Hilligoss on TU's 16" telescope.
- Made the telescope compatible with automated software (Maestro, Cartes du Ciel, ASCOM) and created a pipeline to make the telescope easier to use for students by using a WordPress website and guides.

Projects

Solar Eclipse Project 10/2023 - 04/2024
DYNAMIC ECLIPSE BROADCAST *USA*

- Worked with TU faculty and grad students to use scripts to take pictures of the April 8th 2024 total solar eclipse.

Summer Research Project Summer 2023
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- Worked with Dr. Neda Saeedloei to create C++ code that optimizes lists of behaviors that describe real-time systems.

Events & Clubs

TU Astronomical Society President 2021 - 2024
TOWSON UNIVERSITY *Towson, MD*

- Hosted weekly meetings where we discussed astronomy with our 30+ members. Assisted with astronomy events throughout campus.

Astro Scholars Summer 2022
SPACE TELESCOPE SCIENCE INSTITUTE *Baltimore, MD*

- An astrophysics program led by Dr. Susan Kassin at Space Telescope Science Institute and Johns Hopkins University. Worked with Dr. Svea Hernandez on a Python coding research project on analyzing the chemical composition of M83.

Awards/Membership

2024 - Present	American Astronomical Society Membership , American Astronomical Society
2023 - Present	Sigma Pi Sigma Membership , Towson University
2020 - 2024	Honors College , Towson University
2022 - 2024	Maryland Space Grant , Maryland Space Grant Consortium (MDSGC)

Skills

Tech & Code	Java Python, Jupyter Notebook, Conda, Astropy, Numpy C++ Lisp Web design - HTML, CSS, Javascript Software Testing SQL Database OS - Linux, Windows, macOS Git
Astronomy	Image Reduction Astrophysical techniques Astronomical data analysis Telescope observations
Soft skills	Fast learner Problem solving Communication (Emails, Presentations, Verbal) Teamwork