

David Almona

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EDUCATION

Centre College

2022 – May 2026

Bachelor of Science in Economics (Major), Data Science (Minor)

Danville, KY

- **Cumulative GPA:** 3.64 | **Major GPA:** 3.78
- **Relevant Coursework:** Modern Calculus I, Applied Machine Learning, Statistical Modeling, Econometrics, Empirical Analysis, Data Visualization, Intro to Management, Programming and Problem Solving, Economics of College Sports, Managerial Finance.
- **Leadership & Activities:** Track and Field Student-Athlete | Resident Assistant | Co-President: Centre Brother-to-Brother Club.
- **Programming Languages & Tools:** R, Python, SQL, Tableau, Power BI, Git/GitHub, Microsoft Office, Trello, Jupyter Notebook.

EXPERIENCE

Basketball Analytics Intern

Feb 2026 – Present

Los Angeles Sparks

Remote

- Scraped 400+ historical WNBA mock drafts from 80+ sources and stored them into internal database.
- Applied survival analysis to mock draft data to estimate the probability of each prospect being available at a given pick.
- Researched stabilization thresholds for WNBA player metrics.
- Automated video playlist generation with custom R functions, filtering clips by actions, player, team, or game.

Business Program Development Fellow

Sep 2025 – Dec 2025

Sustainable Business Network (SBN) of Massachusetts

Cambridge, MA

- Developed the Technical Assistance Pilot Program from scratch to connect local food micro-entrepreneurs with specialized consultants at affordable prices.
- Designed multi-step intake process including dual Google Forms (20+ questions each), interview framework, database management system, and memorandum of understanding template.
- Facilitated consultee interviews to identify foundational business gaps and matched businesses with consultants based on readiness, expertise alignment, and availability.

Undergraduate Research Fellow

Jun 2025 – Jul 2025

Carnegie Mellon University - Statistics & Data Science | [Capstone Project](#)

Pittsburgh, PA

- 1 of 16 students selected for a fully funded 8-week research program.
- Developed machine learning models to predict pressing effectiveness in professional soccer using 252,646 sequences from 502 MLS matches, using 10Hz player tracking data provided by SkillCorner.
- Oral presentation at the Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference 2025 & American Soccer Insights Summit 2026.

Data Analytics: Qualitative & Quantitative Insights Extern

Mar 2025 – Jun 2025

Beats by Dr. Dre | [Capstone Project](#)

Remote

- Analyzed 4,500+ consumer survey responses and scraped product reviews using Python (Pandas, NumPy, TextBlob) and AI tools (Claude, Gemini) to identify market opportunities, purchase drivers, and feature preferences for wireless speaker product launch.
- Delivered strategic assessment recommending \$150-250 price point based on consumer insights, demographic segmentation, sentiment analysis, and competitive gap analysis.

Undergraduate Researcher

Sep 2024 – Nov 2024

Centre College | [Capstone Project](#)

Danville, KY

- Built RShiny dashboard analyzing shot data for Centre College Division III women's soccer team.
- Poster presentation at the Carnegie Mellon Sports Analytics Conference 2024.

PROJECTS

Chasing Imperfect Passes: Into the Life of a Receiver | 2026 NFL Big Data Bowl | R | [View](#)

Sep 2025 – Dec 2025

- Analyzed how quarterback ball placement alters receiver movement while the ball is in the air.
- Developed a placement-based metric that captures receiver adjustment through trajectory deviation, acceleration, and turning behavior.

Loan Default Prediction | Applied Machine Learning Course Project | Python | [View](#)

Mar 2026

- Modeled loan default risk on 307K Home Credit applicants, comparing 6 ML algorithms with 5-fold cross-validation.
- Tuned decision threshold via F2 score to prioritize recall, reducing costly false negatives for the lender.

Predicting Pulsars & Forest Cover | Applied Machine Learning Course Project | Python | [View](#)

Apr 2026

- Evaluated 5 classifiers on 48K rows using scikit-learn Pipeline and 5-fold GridSearchCV.
- Achieved 0.728 macro F1 on 7-class forest cover prediction; SVM (RBF) and Random Forest tied at top.

MENTORSHIP

Mentee, 2026 NFL Big Data Bowl Mentorship Program | Mentee, WeStutter@Work Mentorship Program | Selected Participant, Philadelphia Eagles Virtual Development Series (Business Operations)