

# Odin Moja

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linkedin.com/in/odin-m-60ba7551 | scholar.google.com/citations?user=R-zPEOUAAAAJ |  
researchgate.net/profile/Odin-Moja

## EDUCATION

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### Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

March 2026

*Doctor of Philosophy in Information*

Dissertation: "The Machine's Eye Does Not Tire: Experimental Exploration of Synthetic Data in Subject Detection of Florida Manatees"

Advisor: Dr. Marcia Mardis | GPA: 3.98

### University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

December 2018

*Master of Information Technology*

Thesis: "Ethics and Benefits of Automated Decision Making for Optimal Retirement Portfolio Risk Matching in South Africa"

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### Researcher, CCI Machine Learning Laboratory

May 2022 – Present

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Conducted applied machine learning research, with a primary focus on synthetic data generation and computer vision object detection.
- Lead experimental work exploring the use of synthetic media to train AI models for manatee subject detection, forming the basis of doctoral dissertation.
- Contributed to cross-disciplinary lab projects outside primary research area, demonstrating adaptability across machine learning domains.
- Collaborated with lab members via structured weekly stand-up meetings and team communication platforms.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Graduate Lead Instructor – COP2258: Problem Solving Using OOP

May 2023 – Present

School of Information, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Served as instructor of record for an introductory object-oriented programming course in Java, assuming full instructional responsibility.
- Designed and delivered lectures covering software development phases, data types, control flow, loops, user-defined methods, arrays, and custom objects, assuming no prior programming knowledge from students.
- Provided individualized support during weekly office hours and evaluate student performance through graded assessments.

### Graduate Teaching Assistant – COP2258: Problem Solving Using OOP

May 2021 – May 2023

School of Information, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Assisted instruction in object-oriented programming using Java, Zybooks, and integrated development environments.
- Held weekly office hours to support students in debugging and learning programming fundamentals.
- Graded assignments per instructor rubrics and managed student communications on behalf of the course instructor.
- Shadowed Dr. Chatmon to develop pedagogical skills and assist in classroom operations.

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant – LIS2708: Database Programming**

School of Information, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Assisted Dr. Jowett in delivering instruction in introductory database programming and relational database concepts.
- Evaluated student assessments and maintained regular communication with enrolled students.

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant – LIS2360: Web Development**

School of Information, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Supported instruction in web development fundamentals including HTML, JavaScript, and AJAX.
- Assisted students in understanding web server architecture and dynamic web application concepts.

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant – CGS2821: Web Design**

School of Information, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

- Assisted the graduate lead instructor in conducting the course.
- Supported students in learning HTML, CSS, and basic web design principles.
- Graded assessments according to instructor-provided rubrics.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Journal Article**

*Complex Questions and Quality Answers: Comparing ChatGPT and Gemini as Research Collaborators.* Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST). <https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.70056>

### **Conference Papers**

*Comparison of Authentic Media and Synthetic Media in Computer Vision Training.* 28th Southern Association for Information Systems Conference. March 2026. – Won best themed paper.

*Uses of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education.* EdMedia + Innovate Learning. Vienna, Austria. July 2023.

*Issues and a Proposal for Automated Retirement Portfolio Risk Matching in South Africa.* Conference on Information Communications Technology and Society (ICTAS). March 2018.

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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Moja, O. (2025, August). Synthetic Data and Object Detection: The Perfect is the Enemy of Good. Doctoral Colloquium Presentation. ACM Collective Intelligence Conference.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1st Place – FSU CCI Sensor Lab Deepfake Detection Competition     | 2025 |
| Louis Shores Alumni Endowed Scholarship, Florida State University | 2022 |
| Harold Goldstein Scholarship, Florida State University            | 2020 |

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Principal Consultant**

February 2019 – September 2020

IQ Business, Johannesburg, South Africa

- Consulted with clients to analyze business processes and technology solutions.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams to deliver software and process improvements aligned with business objectives.
- Translated business requirements into technical solutions and implementation strategies.

**Software Developer**

January 2018 – October 2018

Credit Gateway Pty Ltd, Pretoria, South Africa

- Developed web-based financial wellness applications using C#, MVC architecture, and MS SQL.
- Implemented repository pattern for data access and deployed applications to Microsoft Azure.
- Conducted code reviews and maintained development standards for a small engineering team.

**Software Developer**

May 2015 – July 2017

GetBucks – MyBucks, Pretoria, South Africa

- Engineered back-end logic for a FinTech loans engine, translating complex financial rules into functional software serving underserved socio-economic communities.
- Maintained database systems handling loan events and payment processing.
- Participated in Agile development cycles (Scrum/Kanban), with all pull requests reviewed by at least two developers.

**Software Developer**

October 2014 – April 2015

Chase Media, Johannesburg, South Africa

- Maintained and enhanced advertising campaign management software handling TV, radio, and billboard bookings, billing, and execution.
- Developed new application modules using C# and MVVM architecture.
- Assisted in migration of legacy systems from Chase 2 to Chase 3 platform.

**Software Developer**

September 2012 – October 2014

Retro Rabbit, Pretoria, South Africa

- Delivered software solutions for multiple clients across Pretoria and Johannesburg.
- Translated client requirements into software specifications and implemented solutions primarily using the .NET framework.
- Worked with technologies including AngularJS, PHP, MySQL, and Google Maps API.

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**UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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**PhD Program Peer Mentor**

July 2021 – Present

Florida State University School of Information, Tallahassee, FL

- Mentor incoming doctoral students, providing guidance on program expectations, research practices, and professional development.

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Association for Information Systems (AIS) – Student Member

February 2026 – Present

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**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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**Programming & Development:** Python, Java, C#, JavaScript, HTML, PHP, AngularJS, SQL, .NET, MVC, MVVM, Microsoft Azure

**Research & AI:** Machine Learning, AI Object Detection, Synthetic Data, HPC Environments, Anaconda Environments, Scrum Methodology

**Systems & Tools:** Linux, Windows, Relational Databases, Integrated Development Environments, Git

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**LANGUAGES**

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English  
Setswana  
Afrikaans

Native  
Native  
Conversational