

Caroline Smith

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Outgoing and goal-oriented MSc Information Technology student at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Track record of successful outcomes across education, experience and extracurriculars. Eager to contribute my team-oriented IT and security background to an enterprise IT environment post-graduation.

Education:

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology – MSc in Information Technology 2024-2025

- Notable Subjects: Independent Project on improving data privacy during financial data analysis (Python and Rust, in collaboration with HSBC), Principles of Cybersecurity, Engineering Reliable Software Systems (Java)

King's College London – BSc Hons in Computer Science, First Class Honours 2021-2024

- Notable Subjects: Security Testing (PHP and JavaScript, Graduate Level; top score in the cohort), Security Engineering (C language, Graduate Level; 90th+ percentile score), dissertation on designing a machine learning methodology to detect and explain network attacks (Python, PySpark, SHAP; 90th+ percentile score)

Experience:

Cybersecurity and IT Intern, Nippon Life Benefits (New York City, USA) 05/2024-07/2024

- Significantly streamlined the process of ensuring compliance with NIST CSF 2.0 and New York regulations by revamping 5+ critical IT documents including a company-wide Disaster Recovery Plan, and developing a 15+ page internal wiki documenting technical compliance
- Proactively volunteered for daily helpdesk/technical troubleshooting tasks to reduce the workload of my colleagues and improve my IT problem-solving skills (Microsoft 365, Windows)

King's Undergraduate Research Fellow 07/2023-10/2023

- 1 of 2 students selected to develop a novel tech-based learning approach for detecting vulnerabilities in C programs for the Security Engineering module at King's; initial internship period extended by 3 months
- Created a case study for a new assignment which would integrate my novel approach for learning defensive software security; later implemented into a module assignment completed by 100+ students annually

Extracurriculars:

CompTIA Network+ Certification Certified 07-2023

- Demonstrated theoretical and practical knowledge in computer network implementations, operations, security, and troubleshooting, including diverse network architectures and network attacks and hardening

Treasurer/Society Co-Lead, Women in Computer Science Society at King's College London 2023-2024

- After 1 year as Vice President, elected by society members to fulfil responsibilities such as sourcing funding, coordinating panel events with 10+ speakers, and leading an 8-person committee and a society of 100+ members
- Honoured as a finalist for Most Improved Society at the 2023 King's College London Student Union Awards

Awards and Competitions:

- 2024: HK\$10,000 Entrance Scholarship from HKUST
- 2024: King's College London Gold Crown Award: awarded to select society committee members after 3 consecutive years of concrete individual contributions to a society
- 2024: Associateship of King's College: awarded upon completion of a 2-year course on ethics and philosophy
- 2023: King's Experience Research Award: awarded to research fellows who have created concrete research output
- 2022: Google Solution Challenge (3-month international hackathon for UN Sustainable Development Goals, JavaScript): awarded First Place in United Kingdom and Top 50 Global Finalist out of over 800 teams worldwide

Skills:

Technical Skills: Python3, PySpark, Bash, Java, SQL, C, Scala, Git, GitHub, Windows, MS Office, macOS, LaTeX
Languages: English (native), German (B1)