Arla Sutton

Product Design and Engineering graduate from Olin College. Passionate about human-centered approaches to complex, system-level challenges.

arlasutton@gmail.com | (360) 932-4221 | https://arlasutton.wixsite.com/my-site

EDUCATION

Olin College of Engineering, Needham, MA   May 2024

Bachelor of Science in Engineering: Product Design
Recipient of 4-year, 50% Olin Merit Scholarship
3.96 GPA
Relevant coursework: Collaborative Design; User Experience Design; Affordable Design & Entrepreneurship, Sustainable Design, Environmental Justice, Advocacy, and Urban Regeneration; Architecture and Urbanism

SKILLS

- Participatory Design
- User Research
- Interviewing & Synthesis
- Figma
- Dovetail
- Miro Board
- Rapid Prototyping
- Project Management
- Jira, Asana
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Communication

EXPERIENCE

Democratic National Committee — UX Researcher   September 2024-present

- Determined research goals and priorities for a **post-election deep-dive** into evaluating the successes and failures of the DNC Tech Team's data tools.
- Collaborated with project managers, data engineers, analytic engineers, and designers.
- Conducted **interviews, quantitative surveys, and compiled analytical metrics**. Compiled findings to inform product roadmaps and business cases.

Rights and Privacy Capstone Project — Project Manager   September 2023-May 2024

- As project manager, **led a team** of six students in an ongoing project to build a data tool to help defense attorneys and their clients **fight wrongful charges** resulting from racially targeted traffic stops.
- Led **interviews and co-designs** with defense attorneys to evaluate the usability of our data tool and seamlessly integrate it into their existing workflows.
- **Collaborated with local activist groups** to support their work fighting mass incarceration and learn about the history of our unjust criminal legal system.

United States Census Bureau — User Research Fellow   June 2022-August 2022

- Selected from an applicant pool of 1,600 students with an acceptance rate of 10% as part of the **Civic Digital Fellowship**, a Coding it Forward fellowship that empowers early-career technologists to explore careers in the federal government
- **Conducted qualitative research with Census partners** that serve underrepresented communities to recommend improvements for the Bureau's approach to Data Equity.
- **Presented research project to agency leadership,** including Deputy Director Ron Jarmin.

Public Interest Technology Project Team — Project Manager   September 2020-January 2023

- Worked with a team of student organizers to **cultivate opportunities for other undergrads** to leverage their skills for justice, equity and thoughtful engineering to implement technology for the benefit of the public interest.
- **Led the Summer 2022 PInT Fellowship** after participating as a fellow in the program in 2021, supporting two student fellows at nonprofits working in the public interest and engaging them in conversations about impact, power, and intent.