

# Nishant Gandhi

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Central Florida** | Burnett Honors College

Bachelors of Science in Computer Science w/ Minor in Secure Computing and Networks & Math Anticipated May 2027

Relevant Coursework: Topics in Cybersecurity, Systems Software, Security in Computing, Computer Logic & Organization, Object Oriented Programming, Linux Fundamentals, Implementing and Administering Network Security.

## TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

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**Irohds (Iroh for Data Scientists)**

Apr 2025 – cur.

- Developed a faculty-led research initiative designing a modular peer-to-peer decentralized data-sharing network in Rust, built on the Iroh protocol to facilitate reproducible open science.
- Implementing Gossip protocols for network synchronization, Blob storage, and memoization modules to improve latency and reduce compute time in distributed environments.

**Personal Home Server**

Aug 2024 – cur.

- Specified and built custom server hardware to host a hardened Proxmox virtualization environment with zero trust architecture for 16+ LXCs and VMs, achieving near 24/7 availability for 5+ users.
- Implemented Wireguard for remote access, Samba for centralized file storage for Windows and Linux clients, and Traefik for load-balancing and SSL management.

**Palm Beach County, Human Services** | Web Development Intern

May 2023 – Aug 2024

- Developed an interactive internal mapping web application (Leaflet.js, Photon API, OpenStreetMap) visualizing 400+ social service resources across Palm Beach County, improving data accessibility for case management staff.
- Designed and maintained public websites (HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Bootstrap 5) for civic initiatives including thehomelessplan.org and Leading the Way Home.

**Implementations of the Boids Flocking Algorithm**

Aug 2023 – May 2024

- Developed a real-time simulation using the Bevy game engine in Rust to evaluate variations of the Boids flocking algorithm for multi-agent swarming algorithm behaviors.
- Analyzed performance to study emergent behaviors and optimization trade-offs across different algorithmic approaches.

## EXTRACURRICULARS

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**KnightHacks**

Hackathon VIII

Oct 2025

- Collaborated on building a lightweight, CardDAV-backed social contacts manager enabling users to share and sync contact information seamlessly across devices using Next.js, tRPC, and PostgreSQL within 36 hours as part of a 4-member team.
- Led the mocking and implementation design of the CardDAV server, translating key elements of RFC 6352 into functional endpoints for authentication, contact retrieval, and sync operations.

Hackathon VII

Oct 2024

- Built a meeting-coordination web app using Express.js, MongoDB, and vanilla JavaScript, enabling users to import iCal files and find optimal meeting times, within 36 hours as part of a 4-member team.
- Created an event recommendation engine with Axios and Cheerio to scrape and suggest relevant community events.

**Hack@UCF**

Orange County Public Schools Cyber Challenge

Jan 2026

- Placed 5th place out of 38 teams of 2 in an 8 hour capture the flag cyber competition, competing against teams from UCF and Seminole State to identify and exploit system vulnerabilities and secure flags.

Horse Plinko Cyber Challenge Blue Team

Oct 2024

- Defended critical services alongside 3 team members (e.g. SSH, DNS, RDP, HTTP, MySQL, & FTP) running on 5 Windows/Linux servers through password cycling, firewalling, and network monitoring in order to ensure service uptime during red team attacks.

Public Relations, Operations, & Infrastructure Team

Aug 2024 – cur.

- Design and distribute promotional materials to support outreach and advertising, and organize/assist with logistics for 12+ general body meetings, 6+ workshops, and competitions.

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**Technical Skills:** Proxmox, Docker, LaTeX, Linux, Windows, Git, MS Office, Python, SQL, MongoDB, NodeJS, Java

**Certifications & Training:** MTA Intro to Programming using JAVA, ITS Databases

**Awards:** UCF Dean's List x3, UCF Pegasus Gold Scholarship, Florida Academic Scholars Scholarship