



Savannah

Savannah Blight, Civic Data Science for Equitable Development

Description

The City of Savannah Smart Community Challenge team is developing data driven neighborhood planning tools that apply machine learning to civic data. These analytic tools are intended to guide the city's blight reduction program and measurably improve neighborhood vitality and equity. Two related Georgia Tech research projects are also underway. One is using mobile data to assess Geographic Social Capital while the other is related to applications for real-time 311 data.

Interns will pilot applications of the prototype tools and models in an interactive computing environment using a variety of ESRI desktop and web-based applications. Other responsibilities are likely to include community engagement, data acquisition and management, documenting procedures for application of analytic models, writing, editing, and design related to project reporting and a data use guide.

Interns will work with Savannah's GA Smart Communities project team in the City's Housing and Neighborhood Services Department in Savannah. There may be an opportunity to work remotely from the GA Tech campus in Atlanta, depending on circumstances.

Top Desired Skills

Proficiency with R, or Python, or ArcPy. Experience with ESRI suite of tools for geospatial analysis, mapping and dashboard creation. Experience with survey design and creative strategies for engagement with hard-to-reach communities. Experience with Adobe Creative Suite and Microsoft Office. Familiarity with urban planning and social science principles. Strong communication skills, verbally and in writing. Additional desired skills include a passion for data visualization and communication design and an interest in community development, affordable housing and the relationship between community identity, cultural traditions and history.

Learning Goals

Gain an understanding of the comprehensive data gathering, QA/QC processes and planning needed for successful technology deployment and acceptance by the public; be exposed to how a local government operates, makes decisions, and delivers services to its citizens.

Deliverables

The intern will produce research material related to the project and related technologies and may also perform or take part in informational presentations to the community about the project.

