

Module A "Why" Statement

Yuqi Hu

When I applied for college, I chose psychology as my major to prepare for further education and a career in medicine. I also added a biology minor and took several natural sciences courses for this purpose. However, I found that idea less and less appealing to me along the process of trying to get into med school. I felt I was forced to focus most of my time and energy on memorizing and repetitive practicing, not actual problem solving and creative work. Therefore, my career vision began to shift when I got a hint of what “creative science” is like. In my senior year, I learned to code in R as a statistical tool for my thesis. Writing codes to meet the analytical needs of my project was a novel and riveting experience. Naturally, I wondered what else I could accomplish with coding and I was stunned after some simple searches online. Since then, I have used my free time to learn coding with online resources.

After getting into the Align MSCS program at Northeastern, it turned out that my decision for transitioning into tech was indeed a good one. I enjoyed learning about computer science and creating my own little projects (courses projects and my own ones) and I realized the huge potential that I might be able to fulfill in this field. Finally, my girlfriend, who I have lived together with for nearly two years now, is a software engineer at a mid-size tech company. I was hence able to peek into the life of a tech worker. It is not easy, of course, but I figured I actually liked it and am ready (at least getting ready) for it in the near future.