

# ROBERT M. HOPKINS

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**Permanent Address:** 1824 Notre Dame Ave, Lutherville-Timonium, MD 21093

**University Address:** 4313 Knox Rd, Apt 512, College Park, MD 20742

## ABOUT:

Computer scientist, linguist. Passionate about the intersection of human language and computation. Interested in applying my skills in linguistic analysis and programming to advance understanding of human language and language technology.

## EDUCATION:

**University of Maryland, College Park – College Park, MD B.S., B.A.**

**Anticipated May 2026**

GPA: 4.0

- B.S. in Computer Science – Machine Learning
  - Coursework: Discrete Structures, Programming Languages, etc.
- B.A. in Linguistics – Grammar and Cognition
  - Coursework: Syntax, Phonology, Computational Ling., etc.

## PERSONAL PROJECTS:

**Emergence of Lexicons in Homesign Systems Model** *Java, Python*

**May 2023, May 2024**

- Successfully replicated simulation based on the “Modeling the Emergence of Lexicons in Homesign Systems” (2013) paper, aligning with the methodologies detailed in the paper, and substantiated findings congruent with the original study
- Modified original program to model natural language change in more complex networks of interactions and to represent signs in strings

**Conlang Tools** *Python*

**October 2023**

- Developed tools to expedite my development of constructed languages (conlangs).
- Helps model natural sound change evolution in languages, lexicon development, and more.

## WORK EXPERIENCE:

**ARLIS CPT-DF Intern**

**August 2024–Current**

- Developing an agent-based model of the U.S. innovation economy to serve as a ‘policy lab’ to educate and inform government policymakers
- Providing insight into the effects of specific past U.S. economic policies

**ARLIS RISC Summer Intern**

**June 2024–August 2024**

- Researched remotely with team to synthesize recommendations on U.S. innovation policy to protect IP while promoting innovation
- Presented in a classified environment to intelligence community professionals

**Computer Science TA CMSC132 Object Oriented Programming II (Java)**

**September 2023–December 2023**

- Provided individualized support to students during office hours review sessions, addressing questions related to general programming topics and projects and working to prepare students for exams
- Graded assignments, exams, projects, providing feedback to improve students’ understanding

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

**Undergraduate Research Assistant** *Semantics of majority quantifiers & algorithms*

**September 2024–Present**

- Experimenting to investigate the interpretation of quantifiers ‘more’ and ‘most’ to understand the algorithm humans use to determine truth of a proposition

**Undergraduate Research Assistant** *LMs are not good proxies for human language learning*

**September 2023–Present**

- Leading programming efforts on research investigating how language models learn syntactic constraints and whether their generalizations align with human language understanding
- Co-authoring paper, actively participating in writing and editing processes, ensuring clarity and accuracy of technical content
- Presenting a talk with team at 49<sup>th</sup> BU Conference on Language Development, November 2024

## ADDITIONAL:

University of Maryland Honors College, University Honors

**2022–2026**

University of Maryland Dean’s Scholarship

**2022–2024**

PULSAR Undergraduate Program – University of Maryland Language Science Center

**2024**

Secret Clearance – U.S. Department of Defense

## SKILLS:

Java, C, Python, some HTML experience. Willing and eager to learn