



**Erin O'Rourke**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CMPINF 401, CS 0441, CS 0445, CS 0447, CS 0449, CS 1501, CS 1502, CS 1550

**Major:** Computer Science and Political Science | **Minor:** Religious Studies

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List since 1<sup>st</sup> semester Freshman Year (Fall 2017)

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** President of Women in Computer Science Club (WiCS), Allocations Committee for SGB, SCI Student Ambassador. Outside of Pitt, I like to run, cook, read, and crochet!

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** Interned at Cisco Summer 2019 and at Microsoft Summer2020. Also worked as a student IT assistant for the Dietrich School from 2017-2020

**Post-Graduation Goal:** After graduation, I'll be spending a year in the Episcopal Service Corps!

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Let me know what you've tried so far! What worked, what didn't, what you've looked up-- this helps us find answers to your questions and problems more quickly

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

You can learn strategies to get better at programming, preparing for tests, etc. that might be different than your professor's and TA's suggestions!

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

I really like the feeling of getting one of my own programs to work after lots of debugging, and helping other people get to that point is really rewarding! Also, the Logisim projects in 447 are some of my favorites in all of the CS courses I've taken.

**Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Don't hesitate to come in / connect with us -- there are no "dumb" questions, and my goal as a tutor is to help everyone feel comfortable and confident about programming and CS.

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**Eshwar Pitchiah**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported Courses supported:** CMPINF 0010, CMPINF 401, CS 0010

**Major:** Computer Science | **Minor:** Hindi

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** 1st place in Forbes Hacks, 5th place in IBM hackathon, Dean's List Fall 2020

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Pitt iServe, SCI Student Ambassador

**Post-Graduation Goal:** Getting Masters through 5-year program, getting MBA.

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Make sure to use the resources available to you. Many of the courses you take may be difficult but you also are given all of the tools you need to succeed. Make sure you ask the Professors for help if you struggle to understand what is going on and they will make every effort to make sure you understand the material and do well.

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

Peer tutoring is a program offered to all students who are looking to do better in their classes and we are sitting here waiting to help students who might need help. If you are would like to do better in your classes, you can come ask for help and receive assistance from other students who have taken the same courses that you have and succeeded.

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

I love that I am able to help students on a foundational course like CMPINF 0401. The course is very important to any major in the SCI department and I am proud to be able to help students get a better understanding of the concepts taught in this course.

***Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?***

Don't be afraid to ask for help. There is no such thing as a stupid questions. People who refuse to ask for help when they need it have nothing to gain, and people who ask questions have nothing to lose.

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**Adam Starr**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CS 0012, CMPINF 401

**Major:** Computer Science

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Deans List Fall 2019, Spring & Fall 2020

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Computer Science Club and Circle K

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** I completed a machine learning summer research project and am an incoming JP Morgan Chase Software Engineering Intern

**Post-Graduation Goal:** After graduation I hope to use the skills I've gained to find my place in the computing and tech industry. I don't know yet exactly what kind of work I want to do, so I look forward to gaining diverse work experiences that will help me to find my path.

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

The best study tip I have is to start early. Bugs are an inevitability and debugging your code can often take a long time. There's nothing more stressful than having buggy broken code and only a few days left until the assignment is due, so give yourself enough time to be able to get the help you need to fix any problems you might not understand.

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

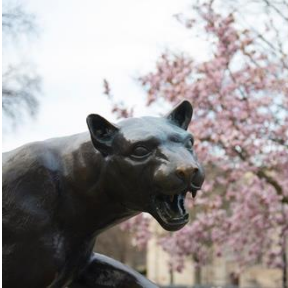
Students should come to Peer Tutoring if they are struggling in a class in any way, no matter how minor. Getting help and asking questions about things you're confused about is a great way to set yourself up for academic success.

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

My favorite thing about tutoring CS classes is seeing people's reactions when they first understand a coding concept that I'm explaining to them that was giving them trouble. This is immensely satisfying for me because I remember all too well being a young freshman absolutely baffled by each new concept I had to learn, and how amazing it felt when they finally clicked.

**Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Use your resources! Pitt has tons of options available to students who need extra help, you need only seek them out.



## Hala Nubani

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CMPINF 0010, CS 0007, CMPINF 401, CS 0441

**Major:** Computer Science | **Minor:** Mathematics

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's list for the past two semesters

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** WICS, CSC, Roleplayers

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** Research on BASIC with Dr. Vee.

**Post-Graduation Goal:** Graduate school

### **What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Take the time to write and work through your psuedo-code. All the while, don't be hard on yourself and if you need help, reach out!

### **Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

It's a great way to stay on top of class and get to network. You learn more about different ways to approach problems but you also hear other people's advice. It's the best way to get more perspective!

### **What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

My favorite things about them is that I'm able to see the same question as everyone else but not necessarily the same approach.

### ***Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?***

Don't be hard on yourself, give yourself the room to grow by taking advantage of resources you have. Don't be shy to ask for help. Feel free to make friends with people will engage with you on the topic and bounce idea of each other.

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**David Mash**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CMPINF 401, CS 0445, CS 0447, CS 0449, CS 1501

**Major:** Computer Science and Music Composition (Dual Degree)

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List - Fall of 2018 to Present

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** I am a member of the Pitt Computer Science Club (CSC) and an officer for the Pitt Music Production Club (Event Manager).

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** I was recently hired as a software engineering intern at Erie Insurance.

**Post-Graduation Goal:** I plan on becoming a Software Engineer after I finish my dual degree. There will always be more to learn and I will continue exploring and creating things in the boundary where computer science and music intersect.

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Computer Science courses can be very challenging. Once you realize that many of these assignments implicitly require you to thoroughly plan out your solution before you start coding, you will have a much easier time staying on top of the coursework.

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

We have been in your shoes before and it is very likely that we not only understand what you are having trouble with but also understand WHY you are having trouble with it in the first place. Because of this, we have a good chance of getting you on the right track for understanding concepts that are yet to come as well.

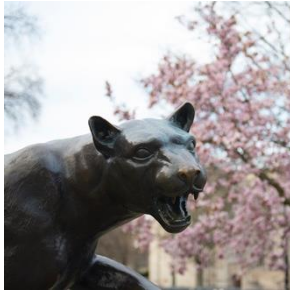
**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

The subjects I tutor for are fundamental to computer science knowledge. My favorite thing about being able to explain these topics in-depth is that I am constantly being refreshed on the foundational knowledge, which continues to help me be confident in my coursework now.

***Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?***

Do not be afraid to keep coming back for more tutoring sessions. We will be here all semester and the more we get to know you, the better we can help you out.

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## **Caleb Tucker-Loewe**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CMPINF 401, CS 0441, CS 0445, CS 0447, CS 0449, CS 1501, CS 1502, CS 1550

**Major:** Computer Science | **Minor:** Mathematics

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List every term since Fall 2018, Mascaro Scholar

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** African Students Organization Computer Science Club  
Private Tutoring. I've also been on the SCI Academic Council.

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** I did research with Dr. Mosse and Dr. Petrucci last summer. We were looking into ways to implement an energy aware scheduler for heterogenous multi-processors.

**Post-Graduation Goal:** Probably a PhD.

### **What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

For any of the courses I tutor, my best tip would be to begin projects extremely early. This gives you a lot more time to ask questions.

### **Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

To ask for help in understanding computer science concepts and to receive advice from other students who have already taken these courses.

### **What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

Teaching people little tips and tricks that can be very helpful and not necessarily taught in lecture.

### **Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Do not be afraid to inconvenience people. If you feel like you need to schedule 5 tutoring sessions, go for it. If you think your TA or professor can better answer some questions, stay in their office hours until you feel like you have received sufficient answers to those questions (within reason, of course).

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## **Ashlyn Geevarghese**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported Courses supported:** CMPINF 0010, CMPINF 401, CS 0007

**Major:** Computer Science and Computational Biology

**Academic Level:** Sophomore

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Computer Science Club, Women in Computer Science Club (WiCS), Akshaya Patra, Asha for Education, AMSA

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** CGI University Mentor

**Post-Graduation Goal:** After graduation I plan to do research in artificial intelligence, ideally relating to biological science or medicine.

### **What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

My biggest study tip for student's taking one of the courses I am tutoring in is to start assignments early. Starting assignments early will give you ample time to manage problems that may arrive. These problems can be managed by contacting a professor, a TA, or a peer tutor. Don't be afraid to reach out.

### **Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

A peer tutor may explain a topic in a different method that may help the student better comprehend a topic. Additionally, talking about a topic or explaining to someone else who is also aware of the topic will

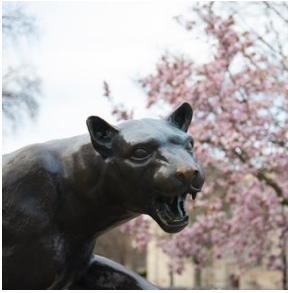
### **What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

One of my favorite things about the subjects I tutor is watching the code compile and successfully execute after working on it for so long.

### **Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Reach out. It's always intimidating reaching out at first but it is very important to communicate any issue or trouble you are having with course material. Professors and TAs are glad to help.

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## **Sherryl Augustine**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CMPINF 401, CS 0445

**Major:** Computer Science | **Minor:** Economics

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** The Women in Computer Science Club (WiCS)

**Post-Graduation Goal:** I would like to pursue a career in Software Engineering after graduation.

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Planning ahead and starting assignments long before they are due will allow you to understand the material better, get help if needed, but also save you a lot of stress!

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

Computer Science classes get very difficult and peer tutors are here to help you as you work on assignments. You do not have to struggle alone, we are here to help!

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

The classes I tutor for allow me to solve problems and think critically using Java as the programming language.

***Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?***

Coursework can get very overwhelming and frustrating for everyone in college. It is important to reach out if you feel like everything is getting to be too much, and more than likely you will be directed to resources that will help you!

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**Birizibe Gnaassingbe**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CMPINF 401, CS 0445

**Major:** Computer Science and Political Science

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** African Students Organization Computer Science Club  
Private Tutoring. I've also been on the SCI Academic Council.

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** I've done a few independent-coding projects: Weather Station that collects weather data outside, then sends the information to an inside computer which displays the corresponding graphics on screen. Tabletop Vending Machine (powered by a pi). Christmas-Tree topper with LED lights that "dance" along to a Christmas Song. A "contraption" that lets you make your own instrumental song by pressing a few buttons.

**Post-Graduation Goal:** I just want to do cool things with Computers while helping make lives better, wherever that might be!

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

It's nice to practice with non-graded examples. It helps you get better at coding and solving problems in general. <https://codingbat.com/java> is a good website for this!

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

It's a great way to get a better understanding, and it's a free/unlimited resource.

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

The problems feel like puzzles, so when you understand what you're doing, it can be a lot of fun.

**Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

It's normally helpful to search the concepts online - maybe hearing a different perspective on the concept (for example, a professor at a different university who makes YouTube videos or something) can connect the dots for you.

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**Jackson Perry**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CS 0011, CS 0012, CMPINF 401, CS 0445, CS 0447, CS 0449, CS 1501

**Major:** Computer Science | **Minor:** Economics

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Survey of Transiting Extrasolar Planets at the University of Pittsburgh (STEPUP), Pitt Triathlon Club, Panther Swim Club

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** Software Engineering Internship at DICK's Sporting Goods

**Post-Graduation Goal:** Full-time Software Engineering Position with DICK's Sporting Goods

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Don't wait until the last minute to work on projects. There will always be an issue that can take a few days to figure out. Also, test your code early and often. It is easier to fix bugs when there are only a few or when they are constrained to a smaller section of code.

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

Getting a second perspective on concepts can be helpful to understanding difficult material.

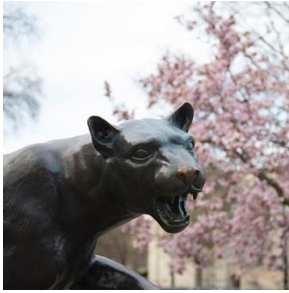
**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

I get to help students understand material that I am passionate about and enjoy.

**Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Schedule an appointment for tutoring hours and attend office hours we are here to help you :)

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## David Ladeji

Peer Tutor

**Courses supported:** CMPINF 401, CS 0407

**Major:** Computer Science

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** Software development Internship at Intuit, Mountain View CA Software development intern at Algorism Ltd, Lagos Nigeria

**Post-Graduation Goal:** Getting a full-time job, then hopefully attend graduate school

### **What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Flood office hours as much as you need to. Instructors and UTAs hold these to help students. If you have a question, they would love to help you out. Also, don't be afraid to pick up a textbook. Some of them can be really helpful in explaining difficult concepts

### **Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

It's a great way to learn concepts you didn't understand in class. Also, there are many one-on-one sessions to choose from if you're more comfortable with those as opposed to group sessions (which are also offered)

### **What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

I actually understand what I'm doing and I kind of enjoy these subjects. I think as long as you understand what's going on, you can be able to attempt explaining concepts in ways that best suit different people

### **Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Please use office hours as much as you need to. If there's literally just a sentence you don't understand, go to office hours. If you don't understand anything that's being asked of you in your lab/project, go to office hours. They are there to help you, so why shouldn't you use them when you need help.

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## **Anoshka Bhattacharjee**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CMPINF 0010, CS 0007, CS 0010, CS 0011, CS 0012, CMPINF 401

**Major:** Computational Biology | **Minor:** Economics and Chemistry

**Academic Level:** Junior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Founder of Non-Profit Organization: Hard Hitters, Vice President of Rukmini, EMT, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority, AMSA, Red Cross

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Research Center

### **What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

Practice! The more you familiarize yourself with algorithms and strategies, the more efficient and reliable your programs and code will be. Also, it is important to have patience with your code and yourself, think of it like a puzzle!

### **Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

Sometimes just talking about logic and strategies out loud brings clarity. Tunnel vision is a common problem for CS students, sometimes an extra pair of eyes can help!

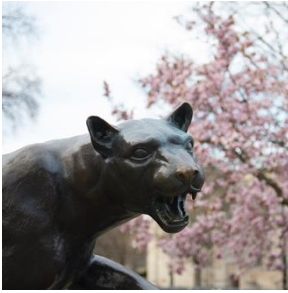
### **What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

The complexity allows you to be creative and truly pull from all aspects of the subject. Also, the satisfaction in seeing your program compile and run successfully is the best.

### **Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Do not be afraid to ask for help, it is natural and can help you see your work through a different lens.

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**Anthony McGraw**

*Peer Tutor*

**Courses supported:** CS 0007, CMPINF 401,

**Major:** Computer Science

**Academic Level:** Senior

**Achievements and Accolades:** Dean's List Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020

**Activities, Clubs and Organizations:** Intramural Soccer

**Internship, Research and Experiential Learning:** I am currently working with the company NetApp on my senior capstone project

**Post-Graduation Goal:** To work as a software developer in the beautiful city of Pittsburgh

**What is the best study tip you have for a student taking one of the courses you tutor?**

When you first start learning to code, the best thing you can do is practice. When you learn new concepts in class, boot up your development software and just write a simple program using it. Run it, see what it does, and do it again. It helps way more to just start trying out the code than staring at notes on paper.

**Why should students come to Peer Tutoring?**

Students should come to Peer Tutoring because there are a ton of available tutors every single week of the semester. Instead of waiting in a long line for the UTA, come to Peer Tutoring and you can ask all the same questions! We are here to help!

**What is your favorite thing about the subject(s) in which you tutor?**

My favorite thing is seeing many of the same projects which I had completed in my first few semesters as a CS student. I get to relive the projects which had me up for hours, and help others avoid the same pain.

**Best advice you would give to a student who may need additional support?**

Don't give up on yourself. Many CS courses seem to throw an endless source of information at you. It takes time to digest it all and learn the best ways to study. Take advantage of the many resources that the University offers to you. There are so many wonderful people that are ready to help you and all it takes is a simple email to get the help you need.

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