**Sydney Pleak**

**Current Address:**

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Indianapolis, IN 46227 (317) 374-8914

**EDUCATION**

**Indiana University,** Bloomington, IN July 2021

O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs, GPA: 3.89/4.00

Major: Environmental Management

Minor(s): African Languages (IsiZulu), African Studies

Academic Honors:

* IU Achievement Provost Scholarship
* 2018, 2019, and 2020 Foreign Language Area Study (FLAS) Fellowship Scholar

Relevant Coursework:

* Introduction to GIS
* Ecology and conservation biology

**EXPERIENCE**

**Ozark Research Field Station (Missouri S&T),** Rolla, MOJune 2022

*Field Technician*

* Collected and curated insect specimen for a large-scale biodiversity survey at Fort Leonard Wood
* Organized and identified specimen to be entered into a database
* Navigated and worked in hot weather conditions while accessing remote areas of the military base
* Followed standard and ethical capture and collection procedures

**Eagle Creek Outfitters,** Indianapolis, IN March 2018 – May 2022

*Shift Lead*

* Provided customer service in water recreation
* Instructed customers on safety procedures
* Operated rescue watercraft and obtained knowledge in first aid/CPR

**African Studies Program at Indiana University,** Bloomington, INNovember 2018 – May 2021

*Undergraduate Outreach Ambassador*

* Created outreach events centered around Southern Africa at local schools (K-12)
* Developed presentations designed to alter preconceived notions about Southern Africa
* Confidently presented to hundreds of students throughout my time as an ambassador

**RESEARCH**

**CEWiT- Undergraduate Research Experience,** Bloomington, INSeptember 2018 – April 2019

*Undergraduate Researcher*

* Collaborated with research team to analyze an example of global internet trolling through YouTube videos
* Evaluated and coded videos using the NVivo software
* Explored the relationship between global trolling and cultural differences using the Hofstede framework for cultural dimensions
* Participated in a Hackathon surrounding the impact women have on the business industry
* Authored a poster presented at the annual Women in Technology Poster Competition

**SKILLS/INTERESTS**

* Avid insect enthusiast and lover of all things outdoors
* Outreach and education coordinator
* Bridging the gap between science and public affairs