

# Kasra Koushan

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**EDUCATION:** University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA  
School of Engineering and Applied Science GPA: 3.61/4.00  
B.S.E. and M.S. in Computer Science Graduation: December 2018 (B.S.E.), May 2019 (M.S.)

## EXPERIENCE:

### **Khan Academy**

Software Engineer Intern

Mountain View, CA

May – Aug 2017

- Defined and scoped project for optimizing usability of the Missions feature; implemented mobile-responsive modal, wrote and analyzed A/B test that showed statistically significant increase (3%+) in multiple engagement metrics
- Iterated on design for new Subject Pages for “Back to School” launch; built React components for feature with 50k+ daily active users
- Designed, implemented, and analyzed performance tests of various services of Google App Engine Flex and Standard, to inform architecture decisions. Source code at [github.com/Khan/flex-perf-testing](https://github.com/Khan/flex-perf-testing).

### **Over – Photo Editor for iOS**

Mobile Engineer Intern

Cape Town, SA

June – July 2016

- Scoped out prototype for an animation feature on the Over app, defining user flows for GIF search, extraction, editing, and export
- Conducted research on ten competing photo-editing apps and their animation features
- Built a rendering engine that enabled users to add and manipulate GIFs on the photo-editing canvas

## LEADERSHIP:

### **The Signal ([www.thesign.al](http://www.thesign.al))**

Product Manager, Editor

April 2017 - Present

- Lead product design, analytics, lead generation, and editing for online magazine interviewing notable individuals
- Helped lead readership growth by 100% over three months to 27k+ page-views, 4k+ unique users
- Interviewees include Sal Khan (Founder of Khan Academy), Rich Riley (CEO of Shazam), Lawrence Szabo (SVP of Lionsgate), and David Tisch (Founder of BoxGroup)

### **Hack4Impact ([hack4impact.org](http://hack4impact.org))**

External Relations Chair, Developer

Sept 2016 - Present

- Executive of Penn group that has developed over 24 projects for 19 nonprofit clients in three years
- Lead project sourcing – working with clients such as Habitat for Humanity and ACLU on project ideation, design, and defining project scope and timeline
- Lead team matching – organizing 20-30 developers, designers, and PMs into teams based on skillset and interest

## PROJECTS:

### **Civil (Hackathon Project)**

July 2017

Web app that transcribes a discussion and converts it into a tree of argument topics and sub-topics in real-time. Scoped out the project, developed JavaScript client for doing analysis on the transcribed text and forming the topic tree. Won \$1000 Hacker’s Choice Prize as a team of four at Greylock Hackfest 2017. Source code at [github.com/cathykc/civil](https://github.com/cathykc/civil).

### **Berkman Internet Weather App**

February 2017

React Native app built for the Berkman Institute of Harvard University to track and visualize internet censorship and usage data from around the world. Defined product use cases and user flows with PM; designed and implemented data visualizations and several app views. Source code at [github.com/hack4impact/im\\_mobile](https://github.com/hack4impact/im_mobile).

### **NextTime Reminders**

November 2016

Reminders app on iOS that sets reminders for general location categories, such as grocery stores, pharmacies, parks, as well as specific coordinates. Designed, developed, and launched individually to the App Store. Available for download at [itunes.apple.com/us/app/nexttime-reminders/id1175039290](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nexttime-reminders/id1175039290). Source code at [github.com/kasrakoushan/nexttime](https://github.com/kasrakoushan/nexttime).

## COURSEWORK:

Analysis of Algorithms, Databases, Software Design, Intro Statistics, Linear Algebra, Healthcare Economics, Philosophy of Meaning, Persian

## ACTIVITIES:

**PennApps** – Organizing Team, Photographer  
**Out4Undergrad** – 2016, 2017 Conferences

**Teaching Assistant** – Theory of Computation; Linear Algebra  
**Penn Persian Society** – Norouz Banquet Organizer