

# Maksim Alexander Semyonov Smith

+1 (785)-865-8638 / +43 677 61949137; [maksim.a.smith@gmail.com](mailto:maksim.a.smith@gmail.com); Innsbruck, Austria

## SUMMARY

---

Efficient and effective communicator both orally and in writing. Passionate about human rights and the planet with an interdisciplinary education and experience in small-team settings.

## EDUCATION

---

**Macalester College**, St. Paul, MN Bachelor of Arts Degree: May 2024

*Majors:* International Studies (Focus: History), German Studies (Language and Culture) GPA: 3.56/4.0

*Concentration:* Human Rights and Humanitarianism

*Relevant Coursework:* Ethnicity and Nationalism in Central and Eastern Europe / (Un)Civil Society in South-Eastern Europe / The Post-Soviet Sphere / Migration, Then and Now (in German) / Transitional Justice / Political Argumentation and Debate / 2-D Design

**Macalester: German Studies Program Berlin/Vienna**, Study Abroad (January 2023-June 2023)

- Daily local cultural and language immersion as well as excursions to other European sites and cities.
- Two months of German language training at the Humboldt-Institut Berlin-Mitte and one semester at the University of Vienna.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

**US Teaching Assistant**, *Fulbright Austria - Klosterneuburg*, Austria / Innsbruck, Austria (October 2024 - May 2025)

- Facilitate cross-cultural exchange to learn about Austrian culture and share American culture in- and outside of the school setting.
- Develop engaging, speech-focused lessons on U.S. history, politics, and culture.
- Represent the US at Fulbright events, community activities, and in Austrian schools.
- Attend workshops and conferences as a part of Fulbright Austria including at the United Nations Vienna HQ.
- Use German every day to navigate bureaucracy, work, and life across Austria.

**Sustainability Office Student Worker**, *Macalester College Sustainability-* St Paul, MN (May 2022 - August 2024)

- Planned, budgeted, and enacted the first stages of the Campus Tree Inventory Project: one of Macalester's \$10,000 Sesquicentennial Grants.
- Reviewed and suggested ways to improve Macalester's AASHE STARS Sustainability Report to become the first school of its type to achieve a Platinum Award level.
- As part of a small team, audited and recommended improvements to American University's AASHE STARS Sustainability Report, helping them earn a Gold Rating.
- Collected and updated data from across campus to complete Macalester's Bicycle Friendly University certification earning a Silver Award, making Macalester one of the most bicycle friendly campuses in the US.
- Repaired student, faculty, staff, community member, and bike share bikes free of charge.
- Built a relationship with a local bike shop to arrange training, acquire cheaper tools, parts, and donated bikes, and facilitate on-campus bike related events.
- Increased visibility of the campus bike programs and Sustainability Office through creation of promotional materials.

**Idea Lab Student Staff Worker**, *Macalester College E&I* - St Paul, MN (August 2020 - May 2024)

- Created and lead 3 workshops per semester (5-40 participants) to learn a new skill in a friendly environment.
- Prepared materials and provide support for up to 20 classes a week using the space for class sessions.
- Actively maintained the space and aid students in projects for the purpose of stress relief and entrepreneurship.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

---

**Mac4Ukraine, Organizer** - St. Paul, MN (February 24, 2022 - May 2024)

- Created a grassroots student organization to raise money and awareness about Russia's invasion of Ukraine across multiple college campuses.
- Organized speakers, campus discussions, donation drives, and maintain a social media presence to support Ukraine and provide information about Russia's invasion.
- Raised and donated ~\$10,300 in the first 7 days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

**Open Door Southside, Intermediate English Teacher** - St. Paul, MN (September 2021 - January 2024)

- Provided individualized and group instruction to 3-12 immigrant adults during weekly English classes with the goal of fluency required for US citizenship.
- Engaged effectively with multiple cultures simultaneously to effectively teach every student.

**Macalester West Coast Swing Dance Club, Club President** - St Paul, MN (April 2021 - May 2024)

- Managed and communicated with 300+ students, as well as the school and outside dance groups to smoothly operate the club.
- Wrote and presented annual budget applications and additional allocation requests depending on changing needs.
- Increased participation in the club by almost 300% since joining leadership.
- Increased budget granted by the college, and corresponding operations, by over 800% since joining leadership.
- Teach beginner lessons in the absence of the regular instructor.

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

---

**Language:** German (B2), Swahili (beginner)

**Design:** Canva, Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop/InDesign

**First Aid:** NOLS Wilderness First Aid Certified

**Sport:** Macalester (D3) Men's Soccer Team (2022-2023), Vlora FC (2022), Macalester Club Volleyball (2021-2024), Experienced Rock Climber

**Dance:** West Coast Swing Leader & Follower (4 years), Ballroom and Latin/Rhythm Leader (2 Years)

**Awards:** Fulbright Austria USTA 2024-2025 & 2025-2026, Fulbright Germany Semi-Finalist, Wallace Distinguished Scholarship, DeWitt Wallace Grant, Pitts Endowment for Study Abroad

**Interests:** Human Rights; Humanitarianism; Refugee Aid; International Organizations; German and European Politics, History and Culture; Dance; Team and Extreme Sports