

Matheus Felipe Pereira de Souza

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EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.S.) - Management

Oct 2021 - May 2023

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, US

Master of Science (M.S.) - Geography

Mar 2017 - Mar 2019

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Thesis "The Political Influence of Big Data in Cyberspace: A Case Study of the 2016 U.S. Elections"

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) - International Relations

Mar 2012 - Sep 2016

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Thesis "The internationalization of e-commerce: A case study of the Alibaba group"

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Associated Researcher

Mar 2015 – Mar 2019

NAPRI – Amazonian Research Center for International Relations, Boa Vista, Brazil

Under the supervision of Professor Elói Senhoras, I conducted research on topics such as technology and society, focusing primarily on data-related studies. As part of my research activities, I interacted with different research groups and attended different national and international research trainings such as the MIT Beyond Food Bootcamp in Taiwan, an intensive program on social innovation, and participated in the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) at Brown University, where I concentrated on social entrepreneurship and global challenges such as hunger and migration. As a researcher, I had the opportunity to publish one book, one paper and present at the Brazilian National Defense Congress.

Graduate Student

Mar 2017 – Mar 2019

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Under the supervision of Professor Elói Senhoras, and the scholarship of the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), I conducted research under the research line "Production of the Amazonian Territory," focusing on the relationship between big data and society. My research culminated in the thesis titled "The Political Influence of Big Data in Cyberspace: A Case Study of the 2016 U.S. Elections," exploring the political impact of big data in digital spaces.

Research Assistant

Jun 2012 – Mar 2015

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Under the supervision of Professor Antonio Veras, I supported research efforts in the "Waters of Macunaima" project mapping 52 river islands from Maracá to Caracarái, Roraima. The project, a collaboration between the Superintendence of Union Assets in Roraima (SPU/RR) and the Universidade Federal de Roraima (UFRR), focused on the characterization, demarcation, and incorporation of islands along the Branco and Uraricoera rivers. The first phase prioritized land regularization for traditional riverside and low-income families, promoting public policies and valuing national heritage, as well as understanding potential risks such as flooding. As a result of this work, we published a booklet with detailed findings, which helped to inform public policies around the conservation of national heritage.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Mar 2018 – Jun 2018

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Under the supervision of Professor Eloi Senhoras, I taught the course "Brazilian Economy" (*Economia Brasileira*), covering topics such as Brazil's economic history and key macroeconomic concepts. Guided students through the development of Brazil's economy, analyzing historical events, economic policies, and their impacts on contemporary economic conditions. Introduced foundational macroeconomic principles within the Brazilian context to enhance students' understanding of the nation's economic dynamics.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Aug 2017 – Dec 2017

Universidade Federal de Roraima, Boa Vista, Brazil

Under the supervision of Professor João Jarochinski, I taught the course “Reading and Text Production” (*Leitura e Produção de Texto*), focusing on research methodology and academic writing. Guided students in developing effective research methods and enhancing their academic writing skills, emphasizing critical reading, structuring arguments, and producing well-organized scholarly texts.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**Programs Operations Associate**

Aug 2024 - Present

Climate Policy Initiative, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

As a Program Operations Associate at Climate Policy Initiative, I provided operational support to ensure program operations. I managed project lifecycles by preparing due diligence submissions, drafting contracts, and maintaining accurate data across internal platforms. I supported the management of \$8 million in grants from over eight different funders, including governments (Norway, Netherlands, United Kingdom) and foundations like the Betty and Gordon Moore Foundation, Porticus, and Moreira Salles Institute.

NeedsList Lead (Consultant)

Aug 2024 - Present

NeedsList, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Remote)

Leading the deployment of NeedsList technology in volatile contexts. Currently supporting disaster relief efforts in North Carolina by integrating our platform to assist communities affected by hurricanes Helene and Milton, optimizing resource distribution and enhancing local humanitarian response efficiency.

Global Operations Manager

Jun 2023 - July 2024

NeedsList, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (Remote)

Led operations for NeedsList globally (Colombia, Peru, Uganda, Kenya, United States, South Sudan, and Ukraine), including partnerships and account management. Collaborated with other managers, C-level executives from outside and inside the company, including CEOs, founders, CFOs, and key employees to develop and implement strategic plans and actions to meet our business and partnership goals. Managed staff and other organizational activities supporting in setting up IT systems, pricing and cost strategy, and managing online workspaces (G-Suite).

Program Manager, Latin America

Feb 2022 - Jun 2023

NeedsList, Bogotá, Colombia (Remote)

Responsible for managing several various regional responses for NeedsList, providing customer and technology management (IT and Comms), contract compliance, customer service support, program management and outreach to refugee led organizations, grassroots organizations, affected communities, governments and companies in Latin America to better understand their needs and how NeedsList could support them. Facilitated global training sessions focusing mainly on Latin America and led the support to the Caribbean, Ukraine, and United States stakeholders. Led business development in Latin America for grants such as GSMA, WFP innovation grant and USAID grants.

Information Management Officer

Jan 2022 - May 2023

Internews, Bogotá, Colombia (Remote) - Consultancy

Led data collection across multiple streams (interviews, social media, local media) to ensure consistent analysis around COVID-19 rumors. Trained partners in qualitative data practices and contributed insights for public health and humanitarian efforts. Produced COVID-19 rumor bulletins with data visualizations for NGOs, local, state and national governments, and supported M&E activities. Also provided regular trend updates and maintained data quality.

Project Manager, Latin America

Feb 2021 - Jan 2022

NeedsList, Bogotá, Colombia; Lima, Peru (Remote)

Managed the deployment of the needs-matching technology, Red Recuperación, focusing on local organizations across Latin America as part of a \$500,000.00 grant-funded project (BetterTogether) by USAID and IDB, focusing on supporting Venezuelan refugees, migrants and vulnerable communities, with an initial focus on Venezuela and Peru. Managed the project's implementing partners (19 national and international staff), budget, monitoring, and evaluation activities, KPIs, and reporting.

Field Assistant

Nov 2019 - Dec 2020

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Boa Vista, Brazil

Acted as the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Focal Point for the Shelter Allocation unit, supported the monitoring of 11 migrant shelters with more than 7,000 refugees and migrants, ensured adherence to global CCCM guidelines. Facilitated relevant CCCM training for NGOs, UN agencies, local government officials, camp managers, and staff. Served as the main focal point for the CCCM unit in the COVID-19 response, supporting in emergency camps construction and management, development of emergency shelter allocation systems for suspected COVID-19 cases and communication channels with local health personnel.

Registration Officer

Aug 2019 - Oct 2019

Norwegian Refugee Council, Boa Vista, Brazil

Organized the historical data records of more than 2,000 beneficiaries who lived in the shelter, allowing them to access better opportunities. Developed a masterlist model for NRC Brazil and trained staff on registration practices. Coordinated registration activities between NRC's shelters in Boa Vista, ensuring data quality, standardization, and consistency of data management.

Project Coordinator

Apr 2019 - Aug 2019

Support Center to Municipalities, Boa Vista, Brazil

Provided technical project management coordination on migration projects and initiatives to local authorities, focusing mainly on creating advocacy activities to affect policy. Created project strategy and guidelines for staff, ensuring project completion and the successful implementation of our activities, impacting the lives of 5000 refugees and migrants in 4 cities of the state of Roraima.

Registration and Data Officer

Oct 2018 - Apr 2019

AVSI Brazil, Boa Vista, Brazil

Coordinated registration activities between AVSI's shelters in Boa Vista, ensuring data quality, standardization, and consistency of data management. Developed data management strategies and processing methodologies for efficient and accountable delivery of assistance.

PUBLICATIONS*Published in Peer Reviewed Journals*

Souza, M.F.P. "A Brief Contextualization of Big Data in the International Business environment: Evidence from the Alibaba Group's Transition" *Brazilian Journal of Technology*, 2: 648-665, 2019.

Published Books

Souza, M. F. P., & Senhoras, E. M. The Internationalization of E-commerce: *A Case Study of the Alibaba Group*. 1st ed. Boa Vista: UFRR Press, 155p, 2018.

Conference presentations

Souza, M. F. P., Senhoras, E. M., Nascimento, F. S. S., Ferreira, R. C. O., Sales, W. T. Q., & Sousa, Y. N. "Cyber Conflicts as a Multidimensional Threat." *Proceedings of the 12th Academic Congress on National Defense*, Pirassununga: Brazilian Air Force Academy, 2015.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Portuguese – Native

English – Fluent

Spanish - Fluent

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Assembling Refugee Housing Units Trainer of Trainers <i>UNHCR</i>	2020
Camp Coordination and Camp Management Trainer of Trainers <i>CCCM Cluster</i>	2020
Global Distribution Tool Trainer of Trainers <i>UNHCR</i>	2020

HONORS & AWARDS

Scholarship <i>Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel</i> Scholarship from the Brazilian government supporting the top students selected to that cohort.	2017
Scholarship <i>Pitzer College</i> Received \$30,000.00 scholarship for an exchange program at Pitzer College at Claremont, California.	2014

PROJECTS

Relif (2024 - present): A modular platform enhancing humanitarian crisis management by improving coordination, reducing duplication, and streamlining aid distribution for vulnerable populations. Currently undergoing live testing in the recovery phases of the 2024 Rio Grande do Sul floods and in Roraima for forced migration flows, focusing on camp management.

HungerLab (2017 - 2019): A project designed to reduce food waste in supermarket chains and facilitate donations to incoming Venezuelan migrants. Initially developed and led by me, the initiative was transferred to the City of Boa Vista and implemented under the guidance of the Secretary of Technology. Collaborations with MIT and Brown University further enhanced the project's outcomes.