

Mateo Garces

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EDUCATION

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Ithaca, New York

2024-2028

GPA: 3.60

PROJECTS

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY – MODULAR BUS SHELTER DESIGN

Cornell University Sustainable Design | Mechanical Subteam

Ithaca, NY

September 2025 – Present

- Contributing to the mechanical design and prototyping of a sustainable, biomimetic, and modular bus shelter system
- Working with engineering and architecture peers to integrate human-centered design and renewable technologies into the system.
- Supporting development of CAD models and structural concepts for components, with attention to durability and accessibility
- Engaging with local stakeholders (TCAT, Cornell Facilities, Ithaca Airport) to align technical solutions with community needs.

DUAL-GEARBOX MODEL CAR DESIGN AND TESTING

Independent Project

Ithaca, NY

March - May 2025

- Designed and built a model car with interchangeable gearboxes, optimizing either torque or speed based on test requirements.
- Applied mechanical design principles to implement gear ratios, improving performance outcomes across differing load conditions.
- Collaborated with peers and instructor to prototype, test, and refine the system, gaining hands-on experience with iterative design.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Teachers Assistant, ENGR 1170 Intro to Mechanical Engineering

Ithaca, NY

August 2025 - Present

- Leading weekly office hours, clarifying complex concepts and guiding students through problem-solving approaches.
- Assisting faculty during lectures by answering questions, facilitating discussions, and reinforcing key technical material.
- Organizing supplemental review sessions and designing thorough walkthroughs to build student understanding before exams.

STORAGE SCHOLARS

Operations Manager

Ithaca, NY

February - September 2025

- Presided over mover teams on campus, delegated roles, and managed communications to facilitate an efficient operation
- Engaged in face-to-face interactions with customers, managed inventory, and organized customer orders in storage facility.

LEADERSHIP & CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

CHI PSI FRATERNITY

Risk Management Chair

Ithaca, NY

April 2025 – Present

- Attending university-led seminars and meetings on risk management, gaining knowledge of best practices and standards.
- Collaborating with the executive council to implement policies and ensure safe and proper fraternity operations.
- Delegating roles and spoke at chapter meetings to communicate risk management practices, expectations, and policies.

LAKESIDE EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (LEEP)

Counselor

Seattle, WA

June – August 2025

- Organized and led daily group activities, ensuring campers were engaged, safe, and participating in a supportive environment.
- Collaborated with fellow counselors and staff to coordinate responsibilities and maintain smooth execution of camp programs.
- Delivered daily announcements at morning assemblies, clearly communicating schedules and expectations to large groups.

CORNELL SALSA PA'LANTE, *Performance team lead, Choreographer*

September 2024 – Present

CORNELL MUNDIAL CLUB SOCCER, *Starter at Right Wing, Right Back, Center Back*

September 2024 – Present

OTHER

Awards: National Merit Commended Scholar ('24) | SAT Score: 1600, US Presidential Scholar Candidate ('24), National Hispanic Recognition ('24), Named Pigott Scholar for contributions to the school in leadership, academics, and the arts ('21 – '24)

Skills: SolidWorks, Python, Office 365, Inventory Management, Experimental Design, Leadership, Proficient in Spanish

Interests: Snowboarding, Painting, Martial Arts, Swimming, Board Games, Poker, Fantasy Football, Soccer, Salsa Dance