

Ricardo Urbaez

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Education

Kean University

B.S. in Computer Science, Minors; Cybersecurity and Mathematics

Union, New Jersey

Expected Graduation: May 2026

- **GPA:** 3.7
- **Dean's List:** 2024, 2025
- **Scholarships/Honors:** Trustees Honors Scholarship, CAHSI Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU), Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society, AI4ALL, SpF (Students Partnering with Faculty), IUSE Scholars Academy, W.E.L.L Travelearn, Kean Foundation Scholarship, Student-Athlete Honor Society
- **Research Conferences:** 2025 37th Annual GMiS, CMD-IT/ACM Richard Tapia, Kean Research Days 2026
- **Extracurriculars:** NexGen Cyber Executive Lead Web Developer, ACM, Women in Cybersecurity, Girls Who Code, NCAA D3 Cross Country / Track & Field Student-Athlete, Undergraduate Student Researcher

Experience

Research and Development Intern

Jun 2025 – Present

Center for Undergraduate Research, Kean University

Union, New Jersey

- Built an AI system in Python that detects human emotions through text input by classifying 27 emotion categories with a GoEmotions trained BERT model and comparing outputs across OpenAI, Qwen, Gemini, and Claude.
- Conducted an experimental study of container networking in secure cloud environments by measuring throughput and latency across multiple network configurations and workloads to identify tradeoffs between performance, flexibility, and isolation.

Desktop Support Technician

Dec 2024 – Present

Kean IT Office of Computer & Information Services, Kean University

Union, New Jersey

- Delivered Level 1–2 desktop and network support across a university network consisting of over 4,000 users, troubleshooting hardware/software issues, Wi-Fi / VPN connectivity, authentication, printing, device imaging, and peripherals for students, staff, and faculty.
- Improved service quality by standardizing troubleshooting and documentation workflows, escalating complex incidents effectively, and mentoring student technicians on support best practices and customer-focused communication.

Supplemental Instructor + Code Samurai CS Tutor

Aug 2024 – Present

Department of Computer Science and Technology, Kean University

Union, New Jersey

- Instructed and mentored student peers in Computer Systems, Algorithms, Computer Organization & Architecture, Data Structures, Java, Linux, Python, and Cloud System Administration, Pre-Calc, Calculus I-II, General Chemistry I.

Projects

AutoShop Appointment & Service Management System | React, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Tekmetric API, Vercel

- Lead a team of 5 and deployed a full-stack web app for R&L Auto Repair to book appointments, select services, and manage shop workflow through a clean customer intake and scheduling flow.
- Stored customer and vehicle details (year/make/model/VIN) in Supabase and connected to Tekmetric API to synchronize job status updates; verified API workflows using Postman.

Computer Vision Tetris Game | Node.js, Socket.IO, Phaser 3, Python, OpenCV, MediaPipe

- Developed a classic Tetris game with single-player and real-time two-player multiplayer, featuring competitive gameplay that can increase the opponent's difficulty during matches.
- Includes computer-vision controls so players can move and rotate pieces using hand gestures and hand motion, powered by a Python pipeline with OpenCV and MediaPipe; includes full keyboard fallback for reliability.

Journal + Meditation App | React Native, Node.js, Express, PostgreSQL, Firebase Auth, OpenAI

- Created a cross-platform journaling and meditation app with secure authentication and a Node/Express backend connected to PostgreSQL for storing user entries and history.
- Integrated OpenAI to generate personalized journaling prompts and guided mindfulness content based on user input and session context.

Technical Skills

Languages: Java, Python, JavaScript, HTML, SQL, C#

Technologies: VS Code, Cursor, React, React Native, Node.js, Express, Socket.IO, OpenCV, MediaPipe, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Git, GitHub, Postman, Vercel, Okta Verification, Active Directory, Windows & macOS

Concepts: Full-Stack Development, Computer Vision, AI/ML Integration, AI Prompt Engineering, QA Testing, Data Structures & Algorithms, Computer Systems, IT Troubleshooting & Hardware Repair, Networking, Software Engineering Ethics