

# Owen Whelan

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Innovative honors student merging language, education, and AI to build tools that empower learners and educators worldwide. Driven by curiosity, collaboration, and a passion for shaping the future of learning through technology.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Smile and Learn Intern: Artificial Intelligence & BeBilingual Teams** (Part Time Internship, Fall 2025) MADRID, SPAIN

- Developed and deployed multiple AI tools to streamline educational content, including a game creation engine for educators and 4+ tools for aligning lessons to Spanish/American/CEFR standards
- Created a new personality for AINARA's AI chatbot, prioritizing coding and an educational tone
- Designed a comprehensive Spanish learning curriculum (Pre-A1 to B2) integrating activities and strategies

### **Marist University Digital Education/IT Team Member** (Full Time Work, Summer 2025) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

- Created 8+ resources for faculty and students to understand artificial intelligence and responsible, efficient use
- Contacted, coordinated, interviewed, and edited video of 8 faculty members about their use of generative AI

### **Rockland BOCES Substitute Teaching Assistant** (Contract Work, 2025) CLARKSTOWN, NEW YORK

- Assisted full-time teachers in instructing neurodivergent students during full, 6-hour instructional days

## EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Marist University, Honors Student** (2023 - Present, 3.9 GPA) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK and MADRID, SPAIN

- Majoring in Adolescent Education/Spanish with a minor in Applied AI (B.A./M.A. expected 2027/2028)
- Semester abroad at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Fall 2025), completing an internship (16 hrs/wk) and coursework entirely in Spanish while living with a host family

## RESEARCH AND PRESENTATIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **Publication for International Technology, Education and Development (INTED)** (2025) VALENCIA, SPAIN

- Presented to exploratory research and paper on AI and note-taking international audience of 30+ academics

### **Marist+AI Academic Group** (2024 - Present) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

- Collaborated with faculty to develop an AI framework at Marist with an internal and external presence

### **Other Academic Conferences** POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

- ALOUD (2025): Developed a language-learning video game for K-12 teachers with 2 modes and 4 languages
- CURSCA (2025) & Hudson Valley AI Summit (2025): Facilitated discussion and presented poster research

## EXTRACURRICULARS

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### **Marist Circle** (2023 - Present) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

- Total authorship of 15+ articles with editing and writing experience, mentored and guided other writers
- **Co-Features Editor** (2024-2025): Edited up to 3 articles per issue, continued writing, distribution
- **Staff Writer** (2023-2024): Pitched stories, coordinated team assignments, assisted in cross-campus distribution

## AWARDS

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### **Dean's List, Marist University** (2024, 2025; 4x) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

### **Sigma Delta Pi Spanish Honors Society, Marist University** (2024) POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

### **New York State Seal of Biliteracy (Spanish) and National Honors Society** (2023) NANUET, NEW YORK

## OTHER SKILLS

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- ❖ **Generative Artificial Intelligence:** Strong, proven knowledge of prominent AI tools and innovative applications, such as coding with AI and managing coding projects alongside AI tools. Active engagement with generative AI tools since their inception.
- ❖ **Computer Science:** Computer science skills, including deploying websites, scraping data, GitHub management and more. Fast learner and active researcher of new tools and technologies.
- ❖ **Spanish:** Reading, writing, and speaking of the Spanish language on a work-ready professional level. Cultural understanding and applications.
- ❖ **Language Learning:** Understanding and knowledge of CEFR and ACTFL language learning standards. History of creating computer assisted language learning (CALL) tools.
- ❖ **Productivity and Organization:** Advanced formatting in the Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, and Notion, for both internal and presentational use cases.