

# Ahana Bhattacharya

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## Interests

My interests broadly lie in **algorithmic fairness** — particularly in the domains of hiring, education, healthcare, and criminal justice — as well as **AI governance** and **tech policy**. I'd like to investigate the use of machine learning algorithms in social systems that have been historically discriminatory and biased through theoretical models and causal inference.

## Education

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|----------------------|--|-------------|
| May 2024<br>Aug 2020 | <b>University at Buffalo   School of Engineering and Applied Sciences</b><br>Bachelor of Science, Computer Science; Minor in Mathematics<br><i>Magna Cum Laude</i> | Buffalo, NY |
|----------------------|--|-------------|

## Research Experience

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|----------------------|---|-------------|
| Present<br>Jan 2023  | <b>Purdue University   Responsible Data Science Lab</b><br><i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisor: Dr. Romila Pradhan</i><br>Building and exploring efficient methods to measure the fairness of a given machine learning model pre-deployment.  | Remote      |
| Feb 2023<br>May 2022 | <b>University at Buffalo   Computation and Equity (cUBE) Lab</b><br><i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisor: Dr. Kenneth Joseph</i><br>Formulated new approaches to investigate civic engagement on social media with the help of findings that problematize current conceptions of online political behavior.  | Buffalo, NY |
| May 2022<br>Jan 2022 | <b>University at Buffalo   Computing 4 Social Good (CS4G) Group</b><br><i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisors: Dr. Maria Rodriguez, Dr. Kenneth Joseph</i><br>Conducted a mixed-methods analysis of child welfare policy in the United States and found a range of implied justice values within administrative rules, from established concepts like fairness and equity to more nuanced foci on bodies as property. | Buffalo, NY |

## Publications

S=In Submission

- [S.2] **The 'Who,' 'How,' and 'When,' of Elite Political Discourse on Twitter/X Before and After the Murder of George Floyd**  
Alyssa Smith, Ahana Bhattacharya, Holliday Smith, and Kenneth Joseph  
*ACM SIGCHI Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing* [CSCW'25]
- [S.1] **Justice in Child Welfare Policy: Towards the Development of a Contextual Ethics Framework for Deployment of AI in Human Service Systems**  
Maria Rodriguez, Seventy Hall, Kenneth Joseph, Ahana Bhattacharya, Benson Cai, Hannah Wilcox, and Connor Wurst  
*ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* [CHI'25]

## Professional Experience/Mentorship

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|-----------------------|---|--------------|
| Present<br>Aug 2024   | <b>Bank of America</b><br>Software Engineer   | New York, NY |
| Aug 2023<br>June 2023 | <b>Bank of America</b><br>Software Engineering Intern<br>Implemented an internal app using Python to automate the process of booking 1000+ trades and increase efficiency by 60%. | New York, NY |
| Dec 2022<br>Sept 2022 | <b>Google Research</b><br>Computer Science Research Mentorship Program (CSRMP) Mentee [🔗]   | Remote       |

## Teaching and Leadership Roles

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**CSE 331: Algorithms and Complexity, University at Buffalo** *Undergraduate TA* Feb 2023 - May 2024

- > led a recitation of 40+ students to help them strengthen and better grasp fundamental concepts such as writing mathematical proofs and implementing algorithms to solve real world problems
- > held weekly office hours and graded assignments/exams

**CSE 220: Systems Programming, University at Buffalo** *Undergraduate TA* Aug 2022 - May 2024

- > led weekly labs with co-TAs where we walked students through short programming assignments in order to tackle more complex course projects
- > held weekly office hours, and organized review sessions and graded mid-term and final exams

**Diversity in Technology Club (DivTech), University at Buffalo** *Director* Aug 2020 - May 2024

- > Led the UB DivTech E-board and helped foster a diverse community of students and faculty in the Computer Science department through social and educational events

**UB Hacking, University at Buffalo** *Web Team Co-Lead* Aug 2020 - May 2024

- > Led UB Hacking's web team alongside redesigning and re-building the official UB Hacking website

## Awards

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**Undergraduate Leadership/Service Award, 2024** Awarded to two graduating seniors in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) who exhibit exceptional service for the department and/or UB as a whole

**University at Buffalo Engineering Fellow and Scholarship Recipient, 2022** Awarded to two undergraduate or graduate students in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

**University at Buffalo Grace Hopper Conference Scholarship Recipient, 2022** Received a fully funded scholarship to attend GHC

**Anita B. Org Grace Hopper Conference Scholarship Recipient, 2021** Received a fully funded scholarship to attend GHC