

# Ahana Bhattacharya

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## Interests

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

## Education

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

Present Jan 2023	<b>Purdue University   Responsible Data Science Lab</b> <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisor: Dr. Romila Pradhan</i> Building and exploring efficient methods to measure the fairness of a given machine learning model pre-deployment.	Remote
Feb 2023 May 2022	<b>University at Buffalo   Computation and Equity (cUBE) Lab</b> <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisor: Dr. Kenneth Joseph</i> 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 Jan 2022	<b>University at Buffalo   Computing 4 Social Good (CS4G) Group</b> <i>Undergraduate Research Assistant   Advisors: Dr. Maria Rodriguez, Dr. Kenneth Joseph</i> 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 = Under Submission

- [S] **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] **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

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