

Ashley Kao

San Diego, CA • Syracuse, NY • akao01@syr.edu • linkedin.com/in/ashleykao1704/

EDUCATION

Syracuse University, School of Information Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

May 2026

B.S. Innovation, Society and Technology, Concentration in Web Design and Management | GPA: 3.9

B.A. Linguistic Studies | GPA: 3.9

Relevant Coursework: Applied Programming for Information Systems | Information Reporting and Presentation | Introduction to Front-End Web Development | Human Centered Design | Automation and the Future of Work | Field Methods | Phonological Analysis | Syntactic Analysis | Diversity of World Languages | Sociolinguistics | Second Language Acquisition

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Dean's List Fall 2022-Present
- Success Scholar Fall 2022-Present
Merit-based scholarship for students who earn at least a 3.7 GPA in their first semester at Syracuse University.
- Leadership Scholar Fall 2022- Present
Merit-based scholarship that provides a 50% tuition scholarship for promising incoming undergraduate students pursuing degree programs at Syracuse University.
- WellsLink Academic Excellence Award Spring 2024
Award for WellsLink members recognizing excellence in academic achievement
- WellsLink Leadership Capital Certificate Spring 2024
Award recognizing WellsLink members who demonstrate a commitment to cultural competence and to building critical skills like communication, collaboration, and professional development

RESEARCH & PRESENTATION EXPERIENCE

Speaker, Linguistics Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

February 7th, 2025

- Presented on LinkedIn usage and etiquette
- Recommended content to post and how to take advantage of LinkedIn's affordances

Student Panel Speaker, Linguistics Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

October 18th, 2024

- Spoke about previous experiences of presenting at research fairs
- Discussed the collaborative research I conducted in LIN406 and LIN431

Research Assistant, School of Architecture, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

May 2023-May 2024

- Position funded by a grant provided by the Syracuse Office of Undergraduate Research & Creative Engagement
- Tracked 4 news publications weekly looking for AI related news
- Curated high quality articles related to the project goal
- Analyzed and thematically labeled trends
- Presented findings at the Fall 2023 Undergraduate Research Fair

LIN406 Field Methods Student, Linguistics Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse NY

Jan. 2024-May 2024

- Collaborated with classmates and professor to analyze the linguistic structure of Ancash Quechua
- Elicited questions to ask the consultant
- Transcribed in IPA the phrases, sentences, and words provided by the consultant
- Assisted in storing and archiving the data collected from elicitation sessions

- Presented findings in the Spring 2024 Linguistics Research Festival

LIN431 Phonological Analysis Student, Linguistics Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse NY Jan. 2024-May 2024

- Collaborated with a graduate student to analyze the linguistic structure of Kami
- Contributed to overall class understanding of the Nupoid languages' patterns during roundtables
- Analyzed and interpreted a 1,700-word dataset for phonological rules and characteristics
- Presented findings in the Spring 2024 College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Fair

WORK EXPERIENCE

Alumni Outreach Assistant, Linguistics Department, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY Nov. 2024-Jan. 2025

- Created a detailed user manual guide on using and setting up LinkedIn Groups for community outreach
- Included an addendum of suggestions for increasing the department's social media presence
- The guide will be used by faculty to increase alumni relations and encourage current students to further engage with the program.
- Self-managed time and work schedule with weekly reports of work progress

Peer Leader, WellsLink Leadership Program, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY August 2023-May 2024

- Mentored 4 first-year students in The WellsLink Leadership Program, an academic excellence and leadership program for first-year students of color, through weekly 1:1 meetings to assist students with their college transition
- Promoted opportunities for students to celebrate their cultural identities on a predominately white campus
- Led weekly seminars on campus resources and community building
- Connected with WellsLink members weekly during seminars to ensure their growth

Retail Associate, Legoland California Resort, Carlsbad, CA May 2021-Sept. 2021

- Interacted with over 100 guests, mainly children, each shift to make their experience more fun and memorable
- Resolved conflicts with de-escalation techniques

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Professional Fraternity Member, Alpha Phi Omega, Phi Chapter, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY Fall 2024-Present

- Volunteered at community events to connect university students to the greater Syracuse area
- Promoted inclusivity, kindness, and respect to people of any kind
- Improved leadership skills through continuous engagement in the Syracuse community

LANGUAGES/RESEARCH LANGUAGES

- Mandarin Chinese
- Spanish
- Python Coding Program
- HTML Coding Program
- CSS Coding Program
- Ancash Quechua
- Kami