Benjamin Wang

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EDUCATION

Columbia University, Columbia College   **New York, NY**
Bachelor of Arts in Data Science and Sustainable Development   *Expected May 2028 Graduation*
Relevant Coursework: Environmental Data Analysis + Modeling, Data Structures and Algorithms, GIS for Sustainable Development, Probability Theory, Linear Algebra, Calc-Based Intro to Statistics, Calculus 3, Principles of Economics, Climate Change and Law, Science for Sustainable Development, Challenges of Sustainable Development, Environmental Biology.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Global Columbia Collaboratory, Columbia University   **Virtual & Gunjur, The Gambia**
Global Fellow   *May 2025 – August 2025*
- Conducted primary field data collection at a turtle conservation village, analyzing water-system capacity data for a 7,000-liter tank while developing a multi-phase expansion plan for 15,000-liter system; presented findings to Gambian officials and leaders.
- Collaborated with CETAG, a Gambian environmental NGO, and local environmental professionals and leaders to analyze and translate environmental data and field observations into actionable recommendations for rural and low-income communities.
- Completed 12 weeks of virtual education in United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, global collaboration, and inter-cultural communication designed to prepare for specific fieldwork projects in The Gambia.

Barnard Environmental Science Department   **New York, NY**
Research Assistant   *October 2025- Now*
- Work closely with Professor Garrett Albistegui-Adler to analyze climate-livelihood interactions across Ethiopian woredas using spatial and climatic data and extract quantitative information from national livelihood-zone atlases (raster data) for databases.
- Reviewed and extracted data and information from 100+ page government reports and academic papers to transform unstructured text, tables, and figures into analyzable datasets for professor's project requirements.

Oxford Royale   **Barnard Campus, New York, NY**
Program Facilitator   *June 2025 – July 2025*
- Led daily excursions and activities in NYC by supervising and ensuring the safety of 80 international students aged 16-18.
- Collaborated with team of program directors and counselors to organize daily schedules, fostering a cohesive team environment.

American Museum of Natural of History (Student Research Mentoring Program)   **New York, NY**
Research Intern   *August 2022 – June 2023*
- Utilized R to analyze 20 years of deforestation data in Madagascar by working with large environmental and satellite-derived datasets to identify long-term trends and environmental impacts of deforestation.
- Applied statistical analysis and data visualization to transform raw imagery and data into clear graphs and charts; synthesized these findings into a research board and presented them at the 10th Annual NYCSRM Student Research Colloquium.
- Learned in depth about machine learning and AI during the summer, applying concepts to environmental datasets.

PROJECTS

Identifying NYCs Most Heat Vulnerable Blocks | ArcGIS Pro, SQL, Python
- Used ArcGIS Pro, geospatial analytics, and SQL-based filtering to combine heat index, vegetative cover, and cooling-access attributes for a site suitability analysis to locate NYC neighborhoods most vulnerable to excessive heat.
- Designed an interactive ArcGIS StoryMap to visualize high-risk neighborhoods and inform climate-resilience interventions.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Columbia Men's Ultimate Frisbee Team "Uptown Local"   **New York, NY**
Treasurer and Athlete   *May 2025- Now*
- Manage and allocate a $30,000 annual budget to support team operations, tournaments, travel, and more.
- Coordinate sponsorships, organize fundraising initiatives, and assist in hiring coaches.
- Co-Social Media Manager and Video Editor: created Columbia's 2025 Spring Highlight Reel using iMovie.

Columbia University Asian Leadership Initiative   **New York, NY**
Board Member   *September 2025- Now*
- Lead moderator for career panels with professionals and 50+ attendees, facilitating structured discussion and audience Q&A.
- Organize and recruit industry professionals in data science, sustainable development, and policy for frequent panel events.

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- **Languages:** Proficient in Chinese.
- **Skills:** Python, R, SQL, ArcGIS Pro, Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint
- **Certificates:** Code Academy: Learn Python 3, Learn Python for Data Science, Analyze Data With SQL
- **Awards & Honors:** Columbia University's Dean's List, Pinkerton Research Scholar.
- Practice Player for nationally competitive New York Grand Army's mixed gender adult club frisbee team.