

Bianca Schutz

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

Master of Science in Data Science

Austin, TX

August 2025 - Present

Rice University

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Houston, TX

August 2021 - May 2025

- Minors in Data Science and Latin American Studies
- Certificate in Language and Intercultural Communication - Portuguese. Earned a Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) rating of C1.
- **Study Abroad:** Rice in Country 2023 at Universidade Federal Fluminense (Niterói, RJ, Brazil)
- **Jones College:** Sports Coordinator (2022-2023), Women's Flag Football Captain (2022-2025)
- Graduated cum laude with a 3.94 GPA.

EXPERIENCE

Law/Policy Course Mentor

Kaplan, Inc.

April 2024 - Present

Remote

- Mentor for Rice University Pre-College courses, "Law: Shaping a Just and Equitable World" and "Global Affairs: Exploring Changing Political Systems"
- Provide guidance to students on final project topics and course content
- Grade and give feedback on student assignments throughout the course

Drug Policy Research Intern

Baker Institute for Public Policy

September 2023 - May 2025

Houston, TX

- Collected data for projects related to naloxone access in Houston-area pharmacies, opioid abatement fund strategies, and legality of Delta-8 THC
- Supported research publications by creating data visualizations and data wrangling in R, analyzing research results, and writing

Legal Practicum Intern

The Law Office of Anuj A. Shah, P.C.

August 2024 - November 2024

Houston, TX

- Completed I-130, I-485, and other USCIS and NVC filings with index of exhibits.
- Drafted detailed briefs for I-246 Stay of Removal, Waiver of Grounds of Inadmissibility, and Prosecutorial Discretion filings to demonstrate the client's character and extraordinary conditions.
- Communicated with clients to obtain necessary or supplementary documentation required for filing.

Local Government and Transparency Intern

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

May 2024 - August 2024

Austin, TX

- Completed more than 50 annual reviews of existing Transparency Star pages and new applicants to help local governments stay up-to-date with award requirements and be recognized for their dedication to financial transparency.
- Wrote and researched for various Fiscal Notes publications and potential projects on topics including liquified natural gas (LNG), housing affordability, and opioid settlement funds.

Curriculum Assistant

Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

September 2023 - January 2024

Houston, TX

- Curated folders and selected queer, transgender, and feminist theory readings for different, intersectional themes to ensure an inclusive, comprehensive curriculum for a new CSWGS course.
- Researched readings through past syllabi, conversations with CSWGS faculty, theory reading lists, library collections, and other sources.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

DistrictMatch D2K Capstone Project

Spring 2025

Team Member

Houston, TX

- Partnered with the Kinder Institute's Houston Education Research Consortium and the Data to Knowledge Lab to make school district data more accessible for district administrators.
- Built a nearest neighbors framework to identify demographically similar school districts, enabling meaningful comparisons.
- Developed a Shiny for Python dashboard where users can select demographic criteria, view their closest-matching districts, and compare key performance outcomes.
- <https://kinderherc.shinyapps.io/districtmatch/>

Beyond the Numbers

Spring 2025

DSCI 304 Final Project

Houston, TX

- Created a Shiny App dashboard visualizing publicly available play-by-play StatsBomb data chronicling the 2019 Women's World Cup. Won Best Project in the showcase.
- <https://biancaschutz.shinyapps.io/WWC2019/>

PUBLICATIONS

Trinity Elkins, Nathan Gonzales, and *Bianca Schutz*. "Liquified Natural Gas in Texas." Fiscal Notes (2024).

Jeffery Liu, *Bianca Schutz*, Skye Fredericks, Imani Hill, Gautam Chaudhry, and Katharine Neill Harris. "How Available Is Over-the-Counter Naloxone in Houston?" Baker Institute for Public Policy (2024).

Bianca Schutz. "Ciganos in Rio During the Time of the King." ImagineRio Narratives (2023).

COMPUTER AND PROGRAMMING SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, SQL, C++
- **Tools:** Git, Excel, Tableau
- **Frameworks:** Shiny, ggplot2, Tidyverse, Numpy, Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow
- **General Skills:** Data Wrangling, Data Visualization, Machine Learning, Web Scraping

HONORS

- Phi Beta Kappa
- President's Honor Roll Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2024

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Detachment Leader

February 2025 – Present

501st Legion

- Organize international merchandise runs by communicating with Legion leadership to obtain Lucasfilm approval and working with manufacturers to distribute hundreds of keychains, shirts, and coins globally.
- Reorganize online forums to ensure information is easily accessible for 501st members and recruits.
- Elected Detachment Leader in February 2025. 501st Member since May 2021, Member Service Team February 2022 – February 2023. Served as Executive Officer February 2023 – February 2025.
- Constructed a wearable, ABS plastic suit that is screen accurate to *Star Wars* and modified the suit meant for someone 5'8" to fit me at 5'1".