

# Kayla Cheng

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## EDUCATION

### Columbia University

New York, NY

*Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science-Statistics (Data Science); Economics*

Expected May 2028

- **Major GPA:** 3.7 / 4.0; ACT: 35
- **Currently Enrolled In:** Intermediate Microeconomics, Probability Theory
- **Relevant Past Coursework:** Principles of Economics, Calculus-based Statistics, Data Structures and Algorithms, Introduction to Java Programming

## WORK & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### HyperKnow.io

Remote

*Beta Testing Research Team & Software Intern*

January 2025 - Present

- Designed and implemented interactive tools using AI frameworks towards personalized learning experiences.
- Collaborated with engineers and designers to translate technical feedback into user-facing improvements; Conducted usability testing and applied iterative, data-driven development processes for system performance.
- Applied object-oriented programming principles to factor components and ensure scalable, maintainable code.

### Break Through Tech AI Fellow

New York, NY

*Machine Learning & AI Fellow*

January 2025 - Present

- Selected for a national fellowship focused on increasing representation in AI and machine learning; awarded a \$2,000 merit-based stipend and earned a Machine Learning Foundations certificate from Cornell Tech.
- Completed 15+ hours/week of intensive training in Python, scikit-learn, and applied machine learning through project-based labs and case studies. Currently collaborating in AI Studio with cross-functional teams and industry mentors to develop predictive models using real-world business datasets.
- Clean, visualize, and statistically analyze large experimental datasets via NumPy, Pandas, Scikit, and Seaborn.

### Sustainable Finance Group

New York, NY

*Associate, Equity Research*

August 2024 - Present

- Conducted in-depth financial analysis and valuation of public equities, integrating ESG metrics with traditional performance indicators such as profitability, leverage, and liquidity.
- Co-authored a 9,000+ word, 41-page Fund I Sustainable Equity Investment Report analyzing sector performance and ESG risks across five key industries including renewable energy and advanced tech.
- Developed investment theses and sector outlooks to inform fund strategy; findings were incorporated into stakeholder communications and investment marketing materials.

### Wen Laboratory @ New Jersey Institute of Technology

Newark, NJ

*Engineering Intern*

January 2022 - June 2024

- Conducted experimental data analysis and statistical optimization for PFAS remediation research using MXene-Ti<sub>4</sub>O<sub>7</sub> membranes, focusing on key operational parameters driving remediation efficiency, enabling data-informed adjustments to experimental protocols.
- Co-authored peer-reviewed paper published in ACS ES&T Engineering and recognized with top honors at state engineering symposia for its environmental impact and scientific innovation.

## AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

### Terra North Jersey Science Fair & New Jersey Academy of Science Awards (2023)

- Stockholm Junior Water Prizes; NJ Institute of Technology Fellowship; 2nd Place Chemistry Award (2x); National Delegate for American Junior Academy of Sciences

### Society of Women Engineers - Award of Merit (2023)

## SKILLS, ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS

**Languages:** Fluent in English and Japanese; Conversational Proficiency in Spanish

**Technical Skills:** Java, Python (inc. Numpy, Pandas, Scikit-learn Seaborn), HTML, SQL, Excel

**Interests:** Sustainable fashion, sewing, probability & math, animals (my tortoise Pumpkin), cafe hopping