# Karen Yi

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## EDUCATION

**Computational Analysis and Public Policy, M.S., University of Chicago** (Sep. 2023 - Jun. 2025)

**Psychobiology B.S., UCLA** (Sep. 2018 - Jun. 2022)
Education Minor • Computing Focus • GPA: 3.9

## EXPERIENCE

**Data Scientist Associate,** American Institutes for Research (Apr. 2024 - Present)

- Led team of 3 to build data dashboards in Shiny for visualizing school finances for OR legislature.
- Used large language models, natural language processing, large language models, and topic modeling techniques in Python to read and analyze over 10,000 research abstracts from PDFs and research APIs. Created time series to track trends in education research at various agencies `(nltk, tika, requests, spacy)`
- In a team of 7, became finalist for a $500,000 grant from a health institution for the purpose of tagging grants using a mixture of traditional and LLM-based machine-learning methods
- Applied ANOVA to analyze whether OpenAI's Whisper algorithm discriminated against students of protected groups (e.g., English Language Learner) while transcribing reading assessment
- Conducted 10 user experience tests to develop a ticketing system in Airtable to manage a process for reporting COVID learning losses to 100s of Illinois schools. CLASS certified for qualitative observations in high schools

**Data Scientist Assistant,** American Institutes for Research (Sep. 2022 - Apr. 2024)

- Cleaned log data for students taking the math portion of the National Assessment for Educational Progress (NAEP) (over 100,000 observations). Created accessible documentation for data users `(bookdown, data.table.` Presented work at 2024 NAEP/AERA conference
- Maintained automatically generated PDF reports and interactive dashboard to report results of school climate survey in Nevada schools `(shiny)`

**Peer Learning Facilitator,** Academic Advancement Program (Sep. 2021 - Sep. 2022)

- Prepared and facilitated psychological statistics and research methods sessions provided biweekly and free of charge to 60 historically underserved college students
- Coordinated with course instructors and underwent professional development and continuing instructional review

**Research Assistant,** Los Angeles Education Research Institute (Jun. - Sep. 2021)

- Worked with education research team at UCLA to analyze how COVID impacted LAUSD students. Used Stata to clean large dataset (over 100,000 observations) analyzing responses to annual school climate survey

**Legislative Affairs Intern,** California Department of Education (Apr. - Jun. 2021)

- Created meeting and policy briefings in order to inform State Superintendent of Public Instruction about relevant California education policy, organizations, and legislators
- Synthesized recent state educational news into a newsletter presented to legislators' offices

**UI/UX Designer,** UCLA Depression Grand Challenge (Nov. 2019 - Oct. 2020)

- Collaborated with marketing/web design team at UCLA STAND to create mental health screening and tracking service available to undergraduate students
- Designed graphics used internally and externally to visualize complex data storage structures and research designs using Drupal and Figma

## SKILLS

**Software** (by proficiency) • R, Python, Figma, MS/Google, HTML/CSS, Airtable, Git, LaTeX, SQL, Photoshop/Illustrator, Qualtrics, C++, Stata, MATLAB
**Languages** • Mandarin (limited working proficiency)

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Foreign Language/Area Studies Scholar, Spring 2024
Carolyn D. Smith Education Award, Spring 2020
Presidential Public Service Fellow, Spring 2020
UCLA Undergraduate Research Fellow, 2020

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**Co-Founder, Chief Architect, and QA Engineer,** BILLinois (Jan. 2025- Present)

- Pitched idea for legislative tracker and civic engagement tool to audience of 40. Conducted 5 user tests to iterate on prototype in Figma
- Formed team of 6 and led the documentation, architecture, and QA processes for 8-week MVP build, resulting in a fully functional legislative tracker with email alerts subscription

**Tutor,** Pritzker Center Bruin Tutor Network (Fall 2020 - Spring 2023)

- Tutored foster youth in math and English in twice-weekly sessions. Prepared worksheets and communicated with social worker team, teachers, and successive foster parents.