# To Do On Website

* Make it look better thru html css
  + Social links don’t expand so much
  + Posts whitespace area should be clickable
* Write content
  + Fix that why cs/business text on the about page
  + Pin down what kind of tone you want for the blog posts, like informative but also slightly humorous while also showing your personality?
  + Make your first actual blog post (this week!)
* Make an email subscribe list on a form and put it in the contact info section

# About Page

Welcome to my website! Learn more about who I am, what I’m interested in, and some of my personal projects. This site was intended for fellow students, potential employers, and any miscellaneous supporters out there.

Cool photo of me

I’m Oliver Wang, a student at the University of Michigan studying computer science and business. In my free time, you’ll probably find me hanging with friends, playing video games, or reading a book.

Being in college has made me think broadly about what I want for the rest of my life, but my main takeaway is that it’s okay to not know what you’re doing, as long as you know you’re moving in the right direction. I’m realizing that even a lot of the grown-ups are figuring it out as they go—everyone is out here experiencing life for the first time equally. So long as you keep making choices that are good for *you,* doing things that benefit your future self, you’ll inevitably be okay in the end.

There’s no formula for success, there’s no magic bullet or secret sauce. Everyone is out here doing their own thing, experimenting and seeing what works. I’m trying to step out of my comfort zone more, saying “yes” to new experiences instead of “no.”

If a post I wrote here genuinely helped someone learn something, either about a topic or myself, then this website will have been a success. Feel free to [email me](mailto:wangolivera@gmail.com?subject=wangoliver.com%20feedback%20-) if you have any comments or suggestions, I’d love to hear them!

Piano photo, die table photo

Piano caption: I've been playing piano on and off for over 10 years and am currently working on learning some Chopin nocturnes.

Die table caption: I built a umich themed outdoor table with my roommates as a woodworking project in summer 2021.

**Why Computer Science?**

I've always enjoyed solving puzzles and finding better ways to do things, which naturally fed into my interest in computer science. Out of all the classes I've taken in my career, the CS ones have definitely resonated with me the most. My favorite thing about the subject is that you can create tools and projects that are really useful with the only startup costs being time and brainpower.

That feeling of code finally working after days of staring at problems and errors is like nothing else—I've never felt that kind of satisfaction from other class projects I've done. A lot of my projects feel like pure mental games, trying to logic my way to a solution. There's a lot of self-learning, self-diagnosing, and general frustration involved, but the feeling of creating something cool that really works is unbeatable. Computer science is a challenging yet rewarding subject where I can definitely see myself working in the future.

**Why Business?**

But coding is only half of the story. Creating an excellent product or tool is great in itself, but what really matters is if people actually find a use for it. I'm interested in business because I want to spread beneficial products that actually benefit the world. Computer science gives you the skills to create something, while business provides the skills to market it—you need both to create a successful venture.

I'm fascinated by how products, ideas, and resources spread, and these interests have naturally drawn me towards business. I hope to eventually become an entrepreneur because I see it as the avenue in which I can affect the world most.

**What About Life Before College?**

I was born and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

# Umich cs blog page

## Everybody Wants to Rule the World

I was obsessed with that Steve Jobs biography in middle school. I dreamed that I would be one of the greats, that I would experience the highest highs and the lowest lows, that I would carve my name into the history books and leave my unmistakable mark on this world. Back then, “making it” seemed much simpler. I believed that success came to those smart, driven people who deserved it—as if it was some reward automatically gifted to the worthy.

Some qualities I’ve noticed in the successful people around me:

1. Tireless – Literally do not stop doing things, its exhausting
2. Culture of Success – They cultivate a mindset and environment that allows them to succeed, the habit of success
3. Keep Going in the Face of Adversity – even in setbacks, even when the world is telling you to stop and no one is supporting you, you keep going
4. Understand What They Want – have a clear goal ahead of you, a concrete concept you can act towards rather than a broad objective: “become successful, make money, etc.” Know yourself and what you *truly* desire.

# The Guilt of Privilege

My parents came to this country with nothing but their suitcases and a promise of employment.

* They grew up in a time when eating sugar was a dessert
* My dad came from a rural farmland, he literally did not start being educated until middle school
* They worked so hard for their shot at college and when they made it in, it was a life-changing thing, a huge deal
* They came to America with the hopes that they could live out the American dream and give their kids the starting point they never had
* But now that I’m standing on the shoulders of giants, I feel guilt—I feel like I am not working as hard as my parents had to and in a way are disrespecting the chances they gave me.
* Yes, I am in school, yes I do truly want to improve myself. But it feels like the struggles I’m facing are much milder
* And everyone around me is also locked into this hazy dream of privilege, so many people know so little of the true difficulties in the world, the things that immigrant parents from other countries had to face in their lifetime.
* Events like revolution, famine, mass sufferings, really changed my parents perspective—they are two of the most hardworking people I know. More than that, they are always focused on improving their prospects, not content to just sit by and let life take them.
* They live deliberately, and it feels like I’m just flopping, not knowing what I’m doing or where I want to go. Maybe everyone at my age is feeling this
* I see people look down on others for studying hard and wanting to make it somewhere. Everyone wants to succeed, but so few are willing to put in the actual blood sweat and tears to make it happen. Dreams don’t just fall into your lap, they are the product of hard work and experience.