

Sophia Chkonia

PHONE: 646.861.8706

EMAIL: SC4934@cumc.columbia.edu

EDUCATION

Columbia Mailman School of Public Health. New York, NY, USA. 2021-Ongoing.

MPH in Epidemiology, certificate in Global Health

GPA: 4.0

University of California, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, CA, USA. 2016-2020.

B.S. in Biology, Minor in Global Health June 2020

Awards: Departmental Honors

WORK EXPERIENCE

Columbia University, New York – Teaching Assistant

Jan 2023 – ongoing

- ❖ Was hired as a Teaching Assistant for Dr. Lynn Petukhova's Genetic Epidemiology class. Responsibilities include managing the Courseworks website, supporting the facilitation of in-class discussions, and other administrative tasks.

Genomics – Biomedical Research and Genetic Diagnostics, Tbilisi, Georgia – Assistant Laboratory Manager, Lab Worker

- ❖ Conducted PCR testing for COVID-19, managed supply, communicated with suppliers, managed schedules and relations between diagnostics team and administration, managed and organized large data in Microsoft Excel.
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Internships and Volunteer Experience

ICAP at Columbia University, Kigali, Rwanda & New York – Next Generation Intern

May 2022 – ongoing

- ❖ Supported the TRACE project evaluation study aimed to assess the impact of HIV recency testing on yield of HIV testing among contacts of newly diagnosed HIV+ cases in Rwanda. Responsibilities included data quality monitoring, data cleaning and analysis in SAS and R, data abstraction, on-site monitoring of study follow-up and adherence to study procedure, and report writing. Gained experience working with DHIS2.
- ❖ Continue to support data analysis as well as conduct research for my graduate thesis project

Queer Health Task Force, Graduate Student Organization, Columbia, New York, NY – Co-President

February 2022 – ongoing

- ❖ Work to promote health of the LGBTQ+ community in Mailman. Responsibilities include event planning, programming with other organizations, conducting workshops.

National Center for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), Tbilisi, Georgia - Intern

June 2019 – August 2019.

- ❖ Worked in the infectious diseases department on a project to change the surveillance system for Acute Flaccid Myelitis to include screening for certain entero-viruses.

Peace Over Violence, Los Angeles, CA – Violence Prevention Specialist

January 2019 – January 2020.

- ❖ Completed a 65-hour training course at a violence prevention organization. Was trained in public speaking, trauma-informed classroom management, and leadership. Provided presentations to schools and community groups on topics such as sexual assault, harassment, domestic violence, gender-based violence, and building healthy relationships.

Bruin Consent Coalition, Undergraduate Student Organization, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA – Events Coordinator

June 2019 – June 2020.

- ❖ Served the organization's goal of raising awareness about sexual violence on campus and creating a healing space for survivors. Organized major events, communicated with off-campus resources/organizations, lead and worked with event working groups.

Dr. Tilda Cvrkel Bioethics Lab, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA – Research Assistant

June 2017 – June 2018

- ❖ Assisted in the research of ethics of emerging technologies such as gene editing with CRISPR.
 - ❖ Conducted literature review
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Skills

- ❖ Software: SAS, R, QGIS, MS Office
- ❖ Fluent in written and spoken Georgian and English. Working proficiency in Russian. B1 French
- ❖ Website: https://sopochkon1.github.io/Sophia_Chkonia/