

Leona Chen

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EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University | Schreyer Honors College

College of Engineering, Bachelor's in Computer Science, Minor in Mathematics | GPA: 3.82/4.00

University Park, PA

Relevant Courses: Data Structures, Object Oriented Programming, Discrete Math, Systems Programming, Computer Vision

Graduation May 2027

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Java, Python, C, Javascript, Swift, MATLAB, SQL, HTML/CSS, LaTeX

Frameworks & Libraries: React.js, React Native, NumPy, pandas, Tkinter, ChromA, p5.js, Swing, LangChain, TensorFlow

Technologies & Tools: VS Code, Linux, Xcode, Google Colab, Git, Hugging Face, Microsoft Office, Power BI

WORK EXPERIENCE

PNC Financial Services

Pittsburgh, PA

Incoming Software Engineering Intern

June 2026 - August 2026

James Z. Wang Research Group

University Park, PA

Research Intern

January 2025 - Present

- Generated thousands of large-scale AI prompts via APIs to study cultural influences on emotional expression
- Managed high-throughput data pipelines producing extensive datasets for AI alignment analysis
- Synthesized AI outputs to investigate cross-cultural variations in emotional expression and inform alignment research

Kode With Klossy

Remote

Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Instructor Assistant

March 2025 - August 2025

- Taught basic machine learning principles to 40 high school students of underrepresented genders in technology
- Instructed on supervised learning, image classification, sentiment analysis, neural networks, semantic search, and RAG
- Guided students through deploying capstone projects using tools including Hugging Face, scikit-learn, and TensorFlow

Penn State School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Remote

CMPSC 132 Grader

August 2025 - Present

- Graded Data Structures assignments in Python for over 200 students and provided actionable feedback
- Guided students through debugging and complex concepts, enhancing understanding and retention
- Collaborated with instructors to refine grading rubrics, streamline workflows, and maintain high-quality course delivery

PROJECTS

RAGatha @ HackPSU (1st Place Winner)

October 2024

- | Python, LangChain, OpenAI, ChromA, Tkinter, NumPy, pandas
- Developed RAG chatbot with team of 5 using LangChain and OpenAI API key to answer queries
 - Implemented vector-based semantic search by embedding user guide content into ChromaDB to optimize retrieval speed
 - Designed and built an interactive GUI using Tkinter library to enhance accessibility and usability

Nomble | React Native, Typescript, Javascript, Firebase, Xcode, Expo

July 2025 - August 2025

- Built and maintained a cross-platform application that allows groups of users to collaboratively choose restaurants
- Implemented user authentication, data management, AI recommendations, responsive UI, and third-party APIs
- Collaborated with team of 3 using Git version control and automated build processes to enhance development efficiency

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

HackPSU

University Park, PA

Front-End Developer/Technology Organizer

September 2025 - Present

- Developed and maintained software for over 900 participants and internal organizers at Penn State's largest hackathon
- Implemented front-end features and API integrations in collaboration with design and back-end teams
- Streamlined project workflows through testing, debugging, and iterative improvements using Git version control

Girls Who Code

University Park, PA

College Loop Founder & Co-President, 2024 Student Leadership Council Member

June 2024 - Present

- Led team of 17 to host educational and professional events through Penn State's chapter of national Girls Who Code
- Spearheaded strategic planning to set Loop goals, expand outreach, and create opportunities for Penn State's community
- Collaborated with national Student Leadership Council to write strategic proposal for future Girls Who Code programs

Nittany Lion Consulting Group

University Park, PA

Associate Consultant

November 2024 - May 2025

- Collaborated with team and company executives to deliver solutions for client concrete 3D printing startup X-Hab 3D
- Conducted market research, analyzed competitors, interviewed critical stakeholders, evaluated business model
- Coordinated cross-functional team efforts, ensuring timely project deliverables and alignment with client objectives