

James Weichert

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james-weichert.github.io

EDUCATION

Virginia Tech - *M.S. in Computer Science*

Graduating Spring 2025 | Blacksburg, VA | Advised by [Dr. Hoda Eldardiry](#)

Research Areas: AI Ethics and Policy, CS Education, AI Fairness and Trustworthiness

Publications:

- **J. Weichert** and H. Eldardiry (2024). "Computer Science Student Attitudes Towards AI Ethics and Policy: A Preliminary Investigation," *IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society (ISTAS) 2024*. Recently accepted.

University of California, Berkeley - *B.A. in Computer Science, B.A. in Data Science*

Berkeley, CA | Graduated with Distinction

WORK EXPERIENCE

Virginia Tech Department of Computer Science

Graduate Researcher:

FALL 2023 - Present

- Member of the Virginia Tech Machine Learning Lab researching AI ethics and policy
- Primary graduate student assisting principal investigators of a \$350,000 NSF grant to investigate AI ethics education; project lead/lead author for multiple constituent research papers

Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA):

FALL 2023 - Present

- **Courses:** CS 1114: Introduction to Software Design (Undergraduate), CS 5805: Machine Learning I (Graduate), CS 5806: Machine Learning II (Graduate)
- Responsibilities vary by course but generally include: conducting office hours and assisting students in understanding complex technical concepts; revising and grading assignments; leading 30-student lab classes

UC Berkeley Data Science

Course Instructor: *Introduction to Computational Thinking with Data*

SUMMER 2022 & 2023

- Developed and delivered content on introductory data science concepts to a class of 60 students
- 80% of students—half of whom had no prior coding experience—achieved grades in the A+/A/A- range

Lead Undergraduate Student Instructor: *Foundations of Data Science*

FALL 2022 - SPRING 2023

- Lead TA for Data 8, UC Berkeley's 2,000-student introductory data science course
- Responsible for content development (including course website and assignments), facilitating a 500-student hybrid discussion section, conducting office hours, grading assignments, and helping to write exams

Undergraduate Student Instructor: *Foundations of Data Science*

SPRING 2022

- Responsible for facilitating one lab and one discussion section per week, conducting office hours, responding to students' conceptual questions online, grading assignments, and proctoring exams

Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC)

Academic Affairs Vice President

MAY 2021 - MAY 2023

- One of five elected executive officers for UC Berkeley's independent student government, representing over 30,000 students on matters relating to academic policy, campus affairs, and the student academic experience
- Re-elected to a second term in April 2022. First ASUC vice president in over 40 years to be re-elected

University of California, Berkeley

Co-Chair, Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Services and Fees

MAY 2021 - MAY 2023

- Two-term co-chair of the UC Berkeley Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Services and Fees (CACSSF), which oversees campus student fee policy, advises the Chancellor on student services priorities, and annually allocates over \$1 million in student fee dollars
- In summer 2021, successfully negotiated with the Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer to have the campus finance Microsoft and Adobe software licenses for all students, saving students \$1.1 million in student fees
- In spring 2022, again negotiated with senior campus leadership to use \$5 million in student fee reserves to pay down a new student fee being implemented by the campus, saving students \$50 per student per year

California Department of Education

Summer Intern

SUMMER 2021

- Assisted in tracking bills on broadband infrastructure during the 2021 California state legislative session
- Developed data visualizations showing COVID-19 funding and broadband access by school district
- Drafted briefing documents for the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent in advance of meetings with local education leaders and stakeholders

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, Java, JavaScript, SQL, PHP, HTML, CSS
- **Software:** Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Excel), Adobe Creative Suite, Canva
- **Languages:** English (native), German (advanced), Spanish (intermediate)

AWARDS

- **UC Berkeley Kenneth Priestley Award (2023):** The Kenneth Priestley Award was established by the Associated Students and the Cal Alumni Association. The award is given to one student annually by the UC Berkeley Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Dean of Students in recognition of a graduating senior who is outstanding in student leadership and contribution to student welfare.