Katherine An

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Education

University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)	Expected June 2024
Bachelor of Science in Psychological and Brain Sciences	3.38 GPA

Minor in Applied Psychology

Research Experience

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Spatial Thinking Lab, Santa Barbara, California   September 2022-Present
- Piloted a study aimed to determine the differences between navigating in desktop vs. immersive VR, including navigation ability, motion sickness rates, and potentially cortisol reactivity.
- Lead research assistant in running a study examining how environmental structure matters in the design of VR environments (utilizing Unity) and how it is associated with navigation ability.
- Utilized data collection and analysis tools such as R and Qualtrics to process and interpret research findings from over 100 participants, enabling evidence-based insights and informed decision-making.
- Collaborated with a renowned research team in investigating topics such as GPS utilization, navigation proficiency, individual variances in navigation aptitude, and navigating within virtual environments.

Applied Experience

AI Training for Technical Writing and Communications, Scale AI, Remote   January 2024-Present
- Trained AI models by crafting and responding to questions within the technical writing domain. Leveraging expertise to enhance model comprehension and performance.
- Evaluated and ranking responses generated by AI systems, ensuring precision and relevance. Implementing quality control measures for optimized output.
- Utilized deep domain expertise to assess the factuality and relevance of text produced by AI models. Contributing to the refinement and improvement of AI-generated content.

Program Co-Facilitator, The Thriving Initiative, Santa Barbara, California   June 2023-Present
- Improved site navigation, optimize content readability, and integrate assistive technologies, resulting in a more accessible and user-centric website design.
- Spearheaded marketing campaigns for Giving Tuesday, earning over $5,000 in donations.
- Led a community beautification project as a marketing campaign to bring more awareness of the program to the surrounding student body.
- Championed committees to help select community providers, re-evaluate curriculum and current practices, select materials to purchase and conduct survey data.
- Act as an active resource for survivors and assist with connecting participants and community members to support services.

Mentor, Mentor Collective, Santa Barbara, California   September 2022-June 2023
- Offered individual guidance to 5 incoming freshmen at UCSB with similar majors and guided them through academic and personal struggles to ensure a smooth transition into higher education and the undergraduate experience.
- Connected students in adapting to the new learning environment, whether online or in person.
- Facilitated connections between students and campus resources to cultivate interest in various activities, classes, and clubs.
- Guided students in organizing their coursework and mastering time management skills to enhance their potential for success.

Courses

Cognitive Psychology; Research Methods; General Statistics; Art, Science, and Technology; Digital Tools for Contemporary Art Practice; Media Psychology; Social Psychology; Cultural Psychology; Writing Web Content Online; Lab in Advanced Research

Skills & Certifications

Languages: Fluent in Mandarin
Technical Skills: HTML, CSS, Unity, Figma, Adobe Photoshop, R, Qualtrics, psychometrics, data analysis
Soft Skills: Active listening, technical writing, time management, community building, leadership
Certifications & Training: UCSB Safety Orientation, Human Subjects Training