

SEAN CHAN

Boston, MA • schanhs03@gmail.com • (515) 606-4798 • linkedin.com/in/schan03

EDUCATION

Boston University

Boston, MA

Master of Science in Data Science | GPA: 3.60/4.00

Sep 2025 – Expected January 2027

Iowa State University

Ames, IA

B.S. in Business Analytics | GPA: 3.49/4.00

B.S. in Finance

Jan 2022 – December 2024

Sunway University

Malaysia

American Degree Transfer Program | GPA: 3.08/4.00

Aug 2019 – Aug 2021

Korea University

Seoul, S. Korea

Exchange Student — Business Analytics & Finance

Aug 2023 – Dec 2023

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming & Data: Python (PyTorch, pandas, NumPy), R, SQL (MySQL), MS Access

BI & Visualization: Power BI, Tableau, Excel, JMP, RapidMiner, eViews

Cloud & Platforms: Microsoft Azure, SAP, Salesforce, SharePoint

Other: Figma, Git

LANGUAGES

Native / Bilingual: English, Mandarin Chinese

Professional Working: Malay

Limited Working: Hokkien

Intermediate: Korean

Elementary: Spanish, German, French

CERTIFICATIONS

- Google Data Analytics Professional Certificate — Coursera
- Excel Essential Training (Office 365 / Microsoft 365) — LinkedIn Learning
- Getting Started with Power BI — LinkedIn Learning
- Programming Foundations: Fundamentals — LinkedIn Learning
- SAP ERP Essential Training — LinkedIn Learning
- Six Sigma Foundations — LinkedIn Learning
- Tableau Essentials

EXPERIENCE

Iowa State University — Intl. Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

Scholar & Employment Unit Assistant | Feb 2025 – Jul 2025

- Built a Python automation script that generated State of Iowa tax returns from intake spreadsheets, eliminating manual data entry across hundreds of student filings while flagging anomalies for human review.
- Utilized SharePoint to design and maintain a Kanban board for tracking new-semester hiring workflows, improving visibility across the team during peak onboarding periods.
- Delivered VITA-certified tax preparation for 100+ international students, saving each student approximately \$50 in filing fees and ensuring accurate 1040-NR and state filings under IRS guidelines.
- Completed end-to-end I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification for incoming student employees, maintaining 100% audit-ready documentation.
- Streamlined the student tax folder intake process by standardizing procedures and identifying workflow inefficiencies to improve office efficiency and service delivery.
- Assisted with managing and training student workers on office procedures and compliance processes.

Iowa State University — Intl. Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

I-9 Student Associate | Aug 2024 – Sep 2024

- Ensured documents were accurate and complete for I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification Forms, identifying issues and providing corrective guidance to students.
- Managed timesheet and schedule planning for student associates during peak hiring periods.

Iowa State University — Intl. Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

Student Assistant | May 2022 – Dec 2024

- Served as front-line support in the SUNAPSIS case-management system for an active population of ~2,500 international students, resolving F-1/J-1 visa, CPT, and OPT inquiries.
- Prepared 1040-NR federal tax returns for international students, translating complex residency rules into clear guidance for non-expert filers.
- Processed I-9 Employment Verification forms and supported compliance reporting for office leadership.
- Maintained confidential records of all international students in compliance with FERPA regulations.
- Trained new staff on office processes and procedures.

Iowa State University — Intl. Students' & Scholars' Office

Ames, IA

Teaching Assistant | Aug 2022 – Dec 2024

- Mentored 50+ incoming international students each term as they adjusted to life in the U.S., providing one-on-one guidance on day-to-day living, academics, and navigating an unfamiliar cultural and administrative environment.
- Coordinated engaging gatherings to foster networking and campus integration for students.
- Planned and led interactive class discussions and activities to enhance student learning and cultural acclimatization.

Andersen Corporation

Minneapolis, MN

Finance Intern | May 2023 – Aug 2023

- Reconciled monthly bank statements against the general ledger, identifying and resolving variances to support timely month-end close.
- Prepared fixed-asset verification tasks for 3 manufacturing facilities and documented the underlying processes to support audit readiness and operational continuity.
- Verified AP invoices against company capitalization policy to correctly classify expenses vs. capital and route them through the accounts-payable workflow.

PROJECTS

Teru Teru: A Weather-and-Activity-Aware Outfit Recommendation App

May 2026

Boston University — DS 719 Data Science Product Management

- Co-designed a weather-and-activity-aware outfit recommendation concept addressing the “micro-climate trap” facing Boston commuters who navigate volatile outdoor weather and over-conditioned indoor spaces.
- Sized the addressable market and modeled affiliate-link monetization at ~\$1.35M in projected annual revenue from 45,000 engaged users.
- Defined the product’s North Star Metric (Weekly Actionable Outfit Adoption Rate), built an MVP-vs-long-term feature roadmap using RICE prioritization, and presented the concept in a full stakeholder pitch.
- Translated user research into product requirements, prototyping core flows in Figma and validating the recommendation interaction with target users before final pitch.

Byte-Level Language Modeling: MEGABYTE vs. Transformer

May 2026

Boston University — CS 505 Introduction to Natural Language Processing

- Implemented a patch-based MEGABYTE transformer and a baseline flat transformer in PyTorch for autoregressive byte-level language modeling, training both at 2M and 10M parameters on up to 2B bytes of text.
- Demonstrated a 3.1× training speedup for MEGABYTE at 10M parameters with comparable bits-per-byte loss, validating the architecture’s efficiency claims for long-sequence modeling.
- Extended the work with patch-size interpolation experiments ($P = 2, 4, 8, 16$) to study trade-offs between local and global context capacity.

WGBH Investigates: Medical Debt

Dec 2025

Boston University — DS 701 Tools for Data Science

- Partnered with WGBH on an investigative data project examining medical-debt patterns, working in a 6-person team to clean, merge, and analyze courthouse records using Python and demographic patterns to support newsroom reporting.

Mitigating Climate-Change Impacts in the Upper Midwest

Nov 2024

Iowa State University — MIS 367 Consultative Problem-Solving

- Co-developed a data-driven recommendation framework for regional climate adaptation to drought issues in the Midwest, presenting findings to a panel of judges from John Deere and placing 2nd out of competing teams.

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

Iowa State University K-pop Club

Ames, IA

President & Founder | Nov 2022 – Nov 2024

- Founded the organization and led a team of 8 executive members, growing the club from inception to formal university recognition.

Dean of Students Advisory Board

Ames, IA

Member | Aug 2022 – Nov 2024

- Advised university leadership on student experience initiatives, representing international student perspectives in policy discussions.

International Student Ambassador Club

Ames, IA

Member | May 2022 – May 2023

- Supported incoming international students through outreach programming and campus community-building efforts.

PRESENTATIONS

“Mitigating Impacts of Climate Change in Upper Midwest”

Nov 2024

Consultative Problem Solving w/John Deere, Ames, IA | with Genevieve Sheehan & Yazhi Feng

“International Perspectives: Views on Positive Relationships and Healthy Sexuality”

Apr 2023

Ames, IA | with Gene Manhattan

“Why Representation Matters in the Classroom”

Mar 2023

I-SCORE, Ames, IA | with Elizabeth Medina

“International Students/Scholars and Their Invisible Barriers”

Mar 2023

I-SCORE, Ames, IA | with Elaine Tan