

Sam Wang

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science with Distinction in Anthropology

Missouri State University – Springfield, MO

May 2026

Minors in History, Sociology, Communications, and Nonprofit Leadership

Certificates in Cultural Anthropology, Social Sciences Research, Peace Corps Prep, and Public Affairs

- GPA: 3.95/4.0
- Dean's List Fall 2022-Spring 2026
- Honors College

Masters of Applied Anthropology

University of Maryland - College Park, MD

Fall 2026-May 2028

- Graduate Assistant in the Department of Anthropology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant - Office Assistant & Teaching Assistant

Fall 2026-May 2027

Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland - College Park

- Completed tasks and assignments for office keep up.
- Revitalized social media pages for the department.
- Expecting to serve as a teaching assistant in the Spring semester

Deans Graduate Advisory Co-Chair

Fall 2026-May 2027

College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland - College Park

- Represented the interests of graduate students for the college.
- Redid the DGSAC constitution to increase sustainability and efficiency of the council.

Office Worker - Dean of Students Office

Fall 2025-Fall 2026

Division of Student Affairs, Missouri State University

- Completed tasks and assignments for office keep up.
- Collaborated in rotations with Student Conduct to oversee documents and cases.
- Assisted in graphic design and social media for the Dean of Students office.

University Ambassador

November 2022-May 2026

Office of Admissions, Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Engage with pre-collegiate students, transfer students, and high school students and present a positive image of Missouri State University
- Answer questions and concerns of potential Missouri State University students, appealing to their interests, and encouraging them to attend the University

Midwest Food Pantry Alliance Coordinator

Spring 2025-Spring 2026

Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Collaborated with coordinator in Mizzou to connect college food pantries, empowering each other and creating solutions to combat food insecurity
- Developed and invited keynote speakers for once a month sessions educating food pantries on how to be successful

Americorps Member - Bear Pantry

Fall 2022-Fall 2025

Center for Community Engagement at Missouri State University

- Oversaw daily operations in the food pantry, including inventory, data management, reports, etc.
- Implemented a \$20,000 renewal initiative to provide long term sustainable funding to enhance the availability of items provided to the student body (\$80,000 total).
- Secured funding and implemented Pantrysoft, a dedicated pantry software to enhance inventory, member satisfaction, online orders, data reports, and nutrition education.

“Educational Trip to China for MSU Student Leaders on Global Competence”–Study Abroad

Spring 2025

Missouri State University

- Travelled to Shanghai, Jiaying, Hangzhou, Beijing, and Dalian China to connect with partner universities, explore global e-commerce, and culture.
- Further developed an understanding and importance of cross cultural connections and the value of global e-commerce. Participated in local lectures with local students.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

“Cultural Competence in College Food Pantries” Honors Project

Fall 2024-Spring 2026

- Worked with Dr. Marnie Watson and Dr. Erin Kenny on researching if and how college food pantries factor cultural competence into their success models.
- Conducted a mixed methods research model with a survey being distributed nationwide to 244 universities receiving responses from 111 and 45 out of 50 states.
- Currently submitting to multiple journals and conferences for publication and presentation of findings and write up.

Leadership Development Through Public Affairs Education

June 2025- Spring 2026

- Worked with a committee of staff and faculty to develop a new inclusive leadership program centered around the MSU Public Affairs Mission.
- Wrote and secured \$15,911 to fund graduation medallions for students and three speakers for three iterations of the program.

“Bear Pantry Worker” Research Project

Fall 2025-Spring 2026

- Worked with Dr. Alex Johnson to research ways to sustain workers for the Bear Pantry following the cut of the AmeriCorps program.
- Wrote and secured \$11,385 to provide a permanent worker position for the Bear Pantry.

Center for Ozarks Poverty Research (COPR)- Research Assistant

Fall 2023-Spring 2025

Sociology, Anthropology, and Gerontology Department at Missouri State University

- Led a virtual reality experience on homelessness for students to reduce stigma on poverty and homelessness.
- Wrote and secured \$1,500 for the 2nd Annual COPR conference on homelessness and poverty.
- Wrote and secured \$1,150 for the 3rd Annual COPR conference on housing and employment.
- Led initiative to provide free books to attendees of the 2nd Annual COPR conference from the keynote speakers Dr. Brian Goldstone's book *There Is No Place For Us: Working and Homeless in America*.

Teaching Assistant for Dr. Erin Kenny in ANT 100 Honors Fall 2024-Spring 2025
Sociology, Anthropology, and Gerontology Department at Missouri State University

- Led a class lecture on how to apply anthropology to real world social issues.
- Assisted Dr. Kenny with tasks and how to boost class engagement with discussion

“Cultural Competence in Campus Visits” Research Project Fall 2023-Spring 2025

- Worked with MSU Admissions and Student Government Association to determine ways to enhance accessibility and cultural competence of prospective student visits to MSU.
- Wrote and secured \$7,288 for wheelchairs and audio translators to enhance campus visits to MSU.
- Wrote and secured funding for a campus brochure distributed to new students highlighting cultural competence and multicultural organizations at MSU.
- Accepted and presented to two conferences to share methods and success stories.

“Pantrysoft” Research Project Spring 2023-Fall 2025

- Worked with Dr. Alex Johnson to research possible ways to enhance MSU's food pantry the Bear Pantry and expand services.
- Wrote and secured \$4,700 to acquire the Pantrysoft data software to enhance operations in the Bear Pantry and adding online order to combat food insecurity stigma.

“Bear Pantry Sustainable Funding” Research Project Fall 2022-Fall 2024

- Worked with Dr. Alex Johnson to research possible ways to permanently fund the Bear Pantry to enhance the aid it provides to the student body.
- Wrote and secured funding provide a one time amount of \$15,000 with a \$20,000 renewal each year.

EDITORIAL AND MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

LOGOS Undergraduate Research Journal - Associate Editor Spring 2023-Spring 2025
Honors College at Missouri State University

- Oversaw a team of six peer reviewers and delegated tasks and deadlines.
- Reviewed and edited over 40 research submissions providing feedback to authors.

Student Basic Needs Podcast - Guest Speaker April 2025
Student Basic Needs Coalition

- Spoke on the journey of student leadership in college and how to stay actively engaged in student advocacy at local, state, and national levels.
- Shared the journey of the Bear Pantry at MSU and trends on data of Student Food Insecurity with strategies to combat and grow college food pantries.

Celebrate APIDA Heritage Month by Listening to Student Experiences

April 2024

Strategic Communication at Missouri State University

- Spoke on the experience growing up Asian American in predominantly white areas and how that affected my upbringing and passions.
- Shared the ways students can celebrate heritage at MSU or advocate for others around them.

Practice Sustainable Gift Giving During the Holidays - Guest Speaker

November 2023

Strategic Communication at Missouri State University

- Spoke on the importance of integrating sustainability into gift giving and reducing carbon footprint.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

2nd Annual SAG Conference

Springfield, MO

April 29, 2026

Presented research on “Cultural Competence in College Food Pantries” project to attendees and answered questions from staff, students, and faculty.

3rd COPR Conference

Springfield, MO

April 23, 2026

Presented research on “Cultural Competence in College Food Pantries” project to conference attendees and local non-profit leaders.

Drury University’s Diversity and Reconciliation Conference

April 4, 2025

Springfield, MO

Presented research project “Cultural Competence in Campus Visits”

MSU’s Collaborative Diversity Conference

March 6-7, 2025

Springfield, MO

Was presenting work on “Cultural Competence in Campus Visits” Was cancelled due to attacks on DEI.

Eden Village Conference

November 1, 2023

Springfield, MO

Presented with Dr. Marnie Watson on her research on homelessness and housing insecurity in the Ozarks and time conducting ethnographic research at Eden Village.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Graduate Student Government Member

September 2026-May 2027

Graduate Student Government, University of Maryland - College Park

- Serve as student representative for UMD on numerous committees and councils regarding university policies and updates for graduate students.

Student Body Vice President

April 2025-May 2026

Student Government Association, Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Serve as student representative for the Missouri State University on numerous committees and councils regarding university policies and updates.
- Runs SGA's legislative branch as the speaker of senate and oversees eight directors each in respective sectors in campus life and improvement.
- Work alongside university president, vice-presidents, provost, and upper administration for strategic advancement.
- Assisted in planning numerous policies, initiatives, and events to enhance campus life.

Homecoming King

November 2025-November 2026

Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Voted in by the student body for outstanding leadership, service, and commitment to the Public Affairs Mission
- Represented the university at major campus and community events, serving as a student ambassador and role model.
- Engaged with student organizations, promoting inclusivity, school spirit, & campus unity

Chief of Staff

April 2024-April 2025

Student Government Association, Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Coordinated all SGA meeting spaces, bookings, and catering.
- Sat on numerous committees enhancing campus life and retention including, the Involvement Ambassadors, Honors College Student Advisory Board, Vice President of Enrollment Services search and the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan subgroup: Academic Opportunities and Innovation.
- Worked with a diverse group of people of different backgrounds and maintained professional and friendly communication
- Planned and hosted several key SGA events including Administrative Banquet, End of Year Banquet, and SGA Retreat with over 100+ attendees each.

Chief Sustainability Commissioner

April 2023-April 2024

Student Government Association, Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Authored and presented resolutions/open forums for programs benefiting the student body, improving the sustainability of MSU.
- Managed the voting process and allocation of the Sustainability Fund which included 250,000+ for projects and initiatives enhancing sustainability.
- Managed a group of commissioners, delegate tasks, provide motivation and guidance
- Sat on and provided student voice on Student Advisory Board, Sustainability Advisory Committee, and Sustainability Academic Committee

Diversity and Inclusion Chair

April 2023-April 2024

University Ambassadors, Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Created educational events for membership to enhance their cultural competence, “Dr. Algerian Hart on Diversity and Inclusion in College” (November 2023) and Women in Leadership Panel (March 2023).
- Enhanced diversity and inclusion training within the organization by creating new additions for campus visits.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

MSU 2025-2030 Strategic Plan Member

Fall 2025-Spring 2026

Academic Opportunities & Innovation Work Group Member – Springfield, MO

- Sole student representative on Academic Opportunities & Innovation Sub Group tasked with working with staff and faculty to find strategies and goals for Missouri State.
- Conducted surveys and data from the student body to align with the goals generated from the Strategic Plan.

Student Advisory Board

Fall 2024-May 2026

Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Addressed and advocated for student needs and concerns regarding student affairs and student life.
- Heard from numerous guest speakers on university changes and advertised to the student body for increased engagement.

Phi Alpha Theta Vice President

Fall 2023-Spring 2025

History Honor Society, Missouri State University Chapter– Springfield, MO

- Plan events relating to different topics in history, such as “Influential Women in History” (March 2024) and “Holocaust Survivor Discussion” (April 2024) frequently recognizing different heritage months and historical topics.
- Assisted in conducting meetings and organize different academic experiences for honor society members, such as undergraduate/graduate research presentation opportunities

Paws to the Polls

Fall 2022-Spring 2024

Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Provided non-partisan voter education, engagement, and voter registration to students.
- Assisted in planning and executing voter engagement fairs, non-partisan panels, and voting day tabling.

Anthropology Club

Fall 2022-Spring 2026

Missouri State University– Springfield, MO

- Attended activities and networking catered towards anthropology majors.
- Attended professional development and career prep seminars to bolster knowledge post-grad paths for the discipline.

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Ozarks Food Harvest Volunteer

Fall 2022-Spring 2026

Food Bank– Springfield, MO

- Assist in the compilation of food packages for food-insecure grade school students in Springfield community

Humane Society Volunteer

Fall 2023-Spring 2026

Humane Society of Southwest Missouri–Springfield, MO

- Socialize animals to prepare them for adoption, assist in adoption events in Springfield area

HONORS AND AWARDS

Citizen Scholar

Winter 2025

Missouri State University

Highest award given to Missouri State students who excel academically and uphold the Missouri State University Public Affairs Mission of Ethical Leadership, Cultural Competence, and Community Engagement

Student Talent and Recognition Awards - Living our Values

Spring 2025

Missouri State University

The Living Our Values Award is presented to a student who excels in the areas of ethical leadership, cultural competence, and community engagement. The recipient is the epitome of the Public Affairs Mission here at Missouri State University.

Student Talent and Recognition Awards - Junior of the Year

Spring 2024

Missouri State University

The Outstanding Junior Award is presented to a junior who has proven to be instrumental in leading the organization to its goals and participating fully in campus life.

Inclusive Excellence/Engaged Citizen Scholarship

Fall 2022- May 2026

Missouri State University

Fosters personal leadership and engagement in new cultures and experiences while at Missouri State University

Sustainability Fellows Program

Spring 2024

Missouri State University

Participated in the MSU's second cohort of sustainability fellows on the interdisciplinary importance of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Goals.

Emerging Leaders Program

Spring 2023

Missouri State University

Participated in the Emerging Leaders Program to network with fellow student leaders and build leadership skills.

Student Organization Leadership Summit

Spring 2023-Fall 2025

Missouri State University

Participated in the three Student Organization Leadership summits to network with fellow student leaders and find ways to collaborate to advocate and support students at Missouri State University.

Lambda Alpha

Spring 2023-Present

Anthropology Honor Society, Missouri State University

Phi Kappa Phi

Spring 2023-Present

Academic Honor Society, Missouri State University

Phi Alpha Theta

Fall 2023-Present

History Honor Society, Missouri State University