

Siena R. Ward

EDUCATION

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. December 2026
Master of Public Health (MPH)
Certificate in Public Health Epidemiology

University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL. December 2024
Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology and History
Kugelman Honors Program
Graduated summa cum laude

Pensacola State College, Pensacola, FL. May 2022
Associate of Arts, General Studies
Graduated summa cum laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Health Professions Aide- Graduate Advisor October 2025-Present
Center for Health Advocacy and Wellness (CHAW), Florida State University
Delivers health and wellness presentations to student organizations with audiences ranging from 40 to 100 participants; supports and facilitates leadership meetings for CHAW's peer education groups; coordinates and facilitates Certified Peer Educator training and orientation for new peer educators each semester; and manages the organization's budget, including creating and overseeing purchase requests and developing program planning documents.

Intern June 2025- December 2026
Abella Women's Center
Designed educational materials and contributed to the development of the new youth development program curriculum, promoting healthy decision-making, leadership, and life skills among adolescents. Contributes to program support by expanding outreach and secure funding through grant writing.

Honors Student Mentor August 2023- December 2024
University of West Florida Kugelman Honors Program
Guided 10 first-year honors students through their academic and personal transition to university life by providing peer support, resources, and mentorship. Facilitated workshops and one-on-one meetings to promote academic success, leadership development, and campus engagement. Collaborated with faculty and program staff to coordinate events, foster community, and address student needs, while modeling professionalism and academic excellence.

Honors LLC Resident Assistant August 2023- May 2024
University of West Florida Housing and Residence Life
Provided mentorship, academic support, and community-building programming for honors students in a residential setting. Planned and facilitated educational, social, and cultural events to enhance student engagement. Served as a peer resource, promoting academic success, wellness, and campus involvement. Fostered an inclusive and supportive living environment through conflict resolution, crisis response, and active collaboration with residence life staff and faculty.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Media and Design Advisor

January 2026- Present

MPHSA Public Health Professions Conference

Oversaw designs and digital marketing materials used to promote the public health professions conference with consistent branding and messaging. Oversaw two Co-chairs and a small group of committee members, facilitating regular meetings to develop visually compelling materials, including programs, flyers, and other promotional graphics. Coordinated with speakers and sponsors to create content and visuals for promotional use.

Historian & Social Media Manager

May 2025- Present

FSU Master of Public Health Student Association (MPHSA)

Serves as the primary point of contact for outreach across social media platforms, ensuring consistent messaging and visibility. Support planning and execution of social, educational, and professional development activities for MPH students and the broader campus community. Assists in the development and implementation of initiatives and activities that increase student involvement, including cross-departmental engagement. Creates and distributes promotional materials to enhance participation in MPHSA events and initiatives.

Media and Design Co-Chair

December 2024- April 2025

MPHSA Public Health Professions Conference

Designed digital and print marketing for the conference, ensuring consistent branding and messaging. Collaborated with multiple planning committees to produce visually compelling materials, including event programs, flyers, and social media content. Coordinated with speakers and sponsors to develop promotional content to increase event registration and attendance.

Marketing Coordinator

August 2024- December 2024

University of West Florida Resident Hall Association (RHA)

Maintained the RHA website and social media accounts, developed and promoted all RHA marketing materials for programs, fundraisers, meetings, and recruitment, as well as actively promoted and recruited new members for RHA.

Secretary, Social Co-Chair, Service Chair

August 2023- December 2024

University of West Florida Kugelman Honors Program

Maintained accurate records of meetings, coordinated schedules, and facilitated effective communication among team members. Planned and organized social events, managed event logistics, and fostered community engagement and participation. Coordinated community service initiatives, led volunteer recruitment efforts, and collaborated with local organizations to address community needs.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of West Florida- 2024 Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)

Social and Structural Determinants of Dental Health in a New Mexico Forensic Sample

Faculty mentor: Dr. Allysha Winburn, Department of Anthropology

Extensive experience conducting research and writing an article on the social determinants of oral health and health inequality within a public health and forensic mindset. Completed a research poster presented at a symposium and wrote a literature review for a manuscript submitted for publication.

University of West Florida - 2024 Terrestrial Field School

PI: Dr. Ramie Gougeon, Department of Anthropology

Extensive experience conducting Phase I archaeological survey to Florida standards in tracts slated for controlled burns. Exercises included orienteering, pacing, maintaining ST intervals, and documenting fieldwork. Additionally, received introductions to remote sensing technologies, photogrammetry, and basic post-field lab procedures.

University of West Florida - History Capstone Project

The White Plague in Pensacola: Community Responses to Tuberculosis in the 1920s

Faculty Mentor: Dr. John Jenson, Department of History and Philosophy

Gathered over 20 primary sources related to public health and tuberculosis in the 1920s in Pensacola, Florida. Examined community responses to a historical health crisis and their decisions not to implement a tuberculosis sanatorium to combat the spread of the illness.

University of West Florida – Anthropology Capstone

Health of the Homeless: Navigating Health Disparities in Homeless Populations

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Meredith Marten, Department of Anthropology

Conducted an extensive literature review on the social and structural health disparities in the United States homeless population. Completed a research poster and presented to the UWF Anthropology department.

PRESENTATIONS

Ward, S., Perritt, T., & Winburn, A. (November 2024). Speaker, podium presentation. Oral Health as Evidence of Embodied Social and Structural Inequity in a New Mexico Forensic CT Sample. Mountain, Swamp, Beach Forensic Anthropology Conference. Pensacola, Florida. Faculty Mentor: Dr. Allysha Winburn

Jones, J. & **Ward, S. (November 2024).** Speaker, podium presentation. In the Wake of Disaster: The Vital Importance of Forensic Anthropologists in Mass Fatality Events. Mountain, Swamp, Beach, Forensic Anthropology Conference. Pensacola, Florida.

Ward, S. (October 2024). Presenting author, poster presentation. Living with Leprosy: Psychological and Social Consequences of Stigma in India. National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Conference. Kansas City, Missouri. Faculty mentor: Elizabeth Barrett & Dr. Meredith Marten

Ward, S. (August 2024). Presenting author, poster presentation. Social and Structural Determinants of Dental Health in a New Mexico Forensic Sample. University of West Florida Summer Undergraduate Research Program Symposium. Pensacola, FL. Faculty mentor: Dr. Allysha Winburn.

Ward, S. & Valente, K. (October 2023). Presenting author, poster presentation. "Forever Natural": A PFAS Art Project. University of West Florida No Defense PFAS Symposium. Pensacola, FL. Faculty mentor: Dr. Jocelyn Evans.

GRANTS AND HONORS

- Summer Undergraduate Research Grant, University of West Florida, 2024
- ARGO Foundation Scholarship, 2024
- Elizabeth Crowell History Scholarship, 2023
- Presidents List, University of West Florida, Spring 2023-Spring 2024
- Dean's List, University of West Florida, Fall 2023
- President's List, Pensacola State College, 2020-2022

MEMBERSHIPS

American Public Health Association	June 2025- Present
American Anthropological Association	June 2025- Present
Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society	January 2024- Present
Golden Key International Honour Society	October 2022- Present
National Society of Leadership and Success	October 2022- Present

CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate in Public Health Epidemiology Florida State University	<i>In Progress</i>
CPR Certification American Heart Association	<i>January 2026</i>
Certified Peer Educator National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)	<i>November 2025</i>
Marketing with Canva Canva	<i>September 2025</i>