Jiawei Wang is a PhD student in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Cornell University. After completing the first year at Fernandez’s CritChem Lab, his research focuses on the kinetics of water-rock interactions during the chemical weathering, especially the dissolution kinetics of iron-bearing minerals. His goal is to obtain the kinetic parameters of key mineral dissolution through experiments, and to constrain the weathering in different environments and geological periods with complimentary geochemical modeling. Thanks to the Lipman Student Research Grant, Jiawei will work on the dissolution experiments of Fe-bearing minerals in granitoids under different oxygen levels, which will help us understand weathering in deep-time and its role in global carbon cycle. The cost of building reactor for controlled oxygen concentration will be covered by this precious research funding.

Jiawei comes from China and received his Bachelor’s Degree in Geochemistry at University of Science and Technology of China. He was interested in the redox reconstruction and relationship between environmental and biological evolution during the Ediacaran period when the first animals emerged. Because of the due to the global pandemic he was only able to continue his PhD career in USA in 2021.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing guitars, hiking, and relaxing with his friends. Coming all the way to the United States, the transition has been exciting but also challenging for him. Over the past year, Jiawei has received a lot of support in his academic journey. Especially, it was with the encourage and support from Dr. Fernandez, his advisor, that he was able to apply for and obtain this valuable grant.