

Benjamin Guilfoyle

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

Student currently studying astrophysics and computer science at Maynooth University, with a 2.1 average. Currently looking for work that can provide an excellent challenge, and opportunity to better my skills.

EDUCATION

Maynooth University — BSc Physics With Astrophysics

Sept 2016- Present

As part of my degree I study: Computer Science, Theoretical Physics, Experimental Physics and Mathematics. I am currently in my final year, working on my thesis into the surface photometry of Seyfert Galaxies.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Programming Support Centre(PSC)

September 2017- Present

I am currently involved in the Maynooth University PSC. I acted as a tutor to struggling and excelling students alike. It is my role to support the student if they need help, or are lacking confidence in their coding.

CoderDojo

September 2017- December 2017

I have also been involved in CoderDojo, a program aimed to teach children age 6-16 the basics of coding and computer science concepts. This has provided a fantastic opportunity to bolster my coding ability while also improving my ability to communicate effectively and clearly.

MU Coin Developer

June 2018- August 2018

For 10 weeks in the Summer of 2018 I held a role as an intern under Phil Maguire. The project was to design a cryptographic currency based off the ethereum ERC20 standard. This provided a quick secure and anonymous way for lecturers to distribute grades. The project was designed in the smart contract oriented language "Solidity", along with a small bit of HTML, and Javascript for a companion website allowing students to check their grades from any browser.

SKILLS

Java, Python, HTML, JS, GO
Group Management
Leadership/Communication
Organization/Productivity

AWARDS/POSITIONS

Intel's IC3 Exam This award proves a level of proficiency with Windows systems and applications.

Games Society VP/Secretary

I spent two years as the society Vice President, this enhanced my organisation and communication skills as this role entailed managing both large and small groups on a weekly basis.

Astrophysics Rep 2016-2019

I am the academic rep for the astrophysics students in Maynooth. I regularly meet with the physics department to raise issues relevant to the student body.

IEEE 24 Hour Coding Event

I participated in a team of 3 in the 2018 IEEE 24 coding hackathon. We placed top 10 teams in Ireland and top 25% in the world.

Collaborative Annotation Software UI/UX Designer

June 2019- July 2019

For 4 weeks in the Summer of 2019 I worked as the UX/UI designer in the Maynooth University Computer Science department. Here I designed a piece of collaborative annotation software with 3 other developers. The project entailed designing an in browser piece of software to promote learning between groups of students through the use of collaborative annotation. The software is planned to go on trial in the coming years as part of a future project to test if collaborate annotation is more effective than traditional teaching methods.

Clericus Data Visualisation

July 2019- August 2019

I undertook 6 weeks work in the Digital Humanities Institute under Professor Thomas O'Connor. Here I analysed the data of over 9000 priests who were ordained in St Patricks University over the past 100 years. I constructed plots based on ordinations, grades, and demographics with the aim of spotting trends in the population over time. The tools I made are planned to be implemented in a web based application to track the history of priests in Ireland and in the future the wider world.

REFERENCES

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PSC Director

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