Besher Kitaz | Software Developer

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https://besherkitaz.github.io/portfolio/

EDUCATION

Berea College - Computer and Information Science   May 2028
- Honors: Berea College Full Ride Scholarship, Valued at $204,000.
- Dean's List: Fall 2024 and Spring 2025.
- Course Work: Software Design and Implementation, Data Structures, Scalable Algorithms and Objects, Theory of Computation, Calculus II, Discrete Mathematics.

EXPERIENCE

Berea College - Software Developer, Berea, KY   June 2025 – Aug 2025
- Collaborated with 18 engineers to maintain and extend two production open-source systems used across Berea College, delivering bug fixes, new features, and automated tests.
- Refactored and improved the Employment Status Form system used by 1,700+ students and 23 administrators, significantly streamlining workflows and maintainability.
- Implemented role-based data visibility, updating database schemas, UI components, and backend logic for secure and efficient information access.
- Contributed to 14+ merged Pull Requests, with 70+ commits, participated in code reviews, and feature development, shipping AJAX-driven endpoints, and database schema upgrades for the CELTS (Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service), Berea's community engagement hub website.
- Organization Repositories (CELTS and LSF): https://github.com/BCStudentSoftwareDevTeam

Berea College - Part-time Mentor and Web Developer, Berea, KY   Oct 2023 - Nov 2024
- Developed a responsive open-source website for the team using modern web technologies, promoting the team with over 4 major sponsor companies.
- Mentored 6 high school students, working with Java and robotics software technologies, and guided and contributed to the Robot Building process for FIRST Robotics Competition.
- Repository link: https://github.com/Rat-Fight/rat-fight.github.io

Paper Airplanes - Volunteered Python and Machine Learning Instructor   Oct 2023 - Nov 2024
- Coached Women in Tech cohorts for three semesters on fundamental concepts in Python from various underrepresented communities.
- Developed a curriculum plan with a team of 6 mentors, which included topics on basic programming, machine learning, and data analysis, empowering over 20 students to land jobs.

SKILLS

Languages: Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, C++, MySQL, HTML, CSS.
Frameworks: React, Flask, Peewee, Bootstrap, Material UI, NumPy, Pandas.
Tools and Practices: Linux Command Line, AJAX, Git, GitHub, Open-Source Development.
Non-Technical: Agile, Pair Programming, Peer Review, Collaboration, Cross-team Collaboration, Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Adaptability, Teamwork, Continuous Learning, Growth Mindset.

PROJECTS

Full-Stack AI Flash Card App - Personal Project
- Built a full-stack flashcard web app using React, Flask, and MySQL, implementing a spaced-repetition algorithm and integrating the Google Gemini API to auto-generate study cards.
- repository: https://github.com/BesherKitaz/AIFlashCards