

# Cougar Rufus Tasker

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## Personal Profile

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I am Cougar, a programmer interested in all things computer science, especially computer graphics and machine learning.

## Skills

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**Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C#, TypeScript (most familiar)

**Tools and Technologies:** Full stack development, GNU/Linux, Version Control Systems

## Education

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### Royal Holloway, University of London

*Sept 2019 – July 2024*

*MSci in Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence*

- Final year average >90%, achieved First-Class Honours.
- Thesis on reinforcement learning: Effective Exploration in Markov Decision Processes
- Developed a robust Java calculator adhering to software engineering principles.
- Collaborated on a web-based restaurant management system (front-end, back-end, and SQL database).

### Havant and South Downs College

*Sept 2017 – Aug 2019*

*A-Levels in Computing, Physics, Maths, and Further Maths*

- Achieved grades: AAB
- Designed a renewable energy-efficient city for the 2050 E4E Challenge, placing third.
- Conducted physics experiments to determine fundamental constants.

### Bourne Community College

*Sept 2013 – Aug 2017*

*GCSEs*

- Achieved a 9(A\*) in Maths, 5(B) in English, four A's, and two B's.
- Involved in extracurriculars, Completed the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award and NCS
- Helped organise ChiPride event during the National Citizen Service Program.

## Experience

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### Software Developer

*Paddington, London*

*Zing Dev Limited*

*June 2024 – present*

- Returned as a graduate to continue developing twilio solutions and myself
- Assisted new placements through zing's mentoring programme

### Junior Developer

*Paddington, London*

*Zing Dev Limited*

*July 2022 – Aug 2023*

- Year in Industry placement with diverse roles across the software lifecycle.
- Worked collaboratively with customers to implement Twilio solutions.
- Contributed to design, development, and support tasks.

### User Interface Analyst (Paid Internship)

*Remote*

*Royal Holloway*

*Aug 2021*

- Built a data collection system for BBC iPlayer integration with visualization software.
- Automated site interaction using Selenium and developed a relational PostgreSQL database.

### Team Member

*Chichester*

*Boston Tea Party*

*Aug 2019 – Oct 2019*

- Served tables, ensured customer satisfaction, and managed fast-paced operations.

**Steward***Goodwood Festival of Speed**Goodwood**July 2019*

- Directed and assisted event attendees with professionalism.

**Waiter***Little London Café**Chichester**Jan 2017 – June 2019*

- Progressed responsibilities from dishwashing to payment handling and customer service.

**Work Experience***Strawberry Soup**Southbourne**Nov 2015*

- Gained skills in Photoshop, usability testing, and data entry during a sort internship.