

DECLAN KEHOE

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

BSc Human Computer Interaction: 1st Class Hons
University of Manchester

Received **professor's prize** for outstanding academic achievement in 3rd year

SKILLS

UX: Research-based attitude developed in qualitative and quantitative methods studied during degree

HCI: Study of cognition, psychology, biology, and anthropology gave insight of humanistic elements in tech

Software Engineering: Full-stack development in multiple tech ecosystems

Agile: Practises followed professionally, including user-stories and task boards

Communication: From background in the arts to stakeholder presentations in a professional environment

EXPERTISE

Languages: Java, R, bash, HTML|CSS, JS|TS in many frameworks, python, markdown|LaTeX

Software: Most IDEs, RStudio, git, docker, trello, CI/CD, Unity (C#), GMS (GML)

Design Packages: Sketch, Figma, Final Cut Pro, Logic, Unity, GameMaker

PROFILE

I started as a strong communicator, collaborator, and creative thinker from a background in the arts, then went to uni as a mature student to develop harder skills in software engineering. I chose to switch from a pure computer science to human computer interaction degree due to my curiosity as to how people actually use the technology we create. Alongside psychology, biology, and anthropology, studying UX became my focus as it employs all those disciplines to develop deeper understandings. For the same reason I'm fascinated by everything 'games'. To me, games are the purest demonstration of all I am interested in; predicated on understanding how people tick, artistically combining software and hardware to connect with others, and abstracting the most incredible technology into personal, emotional experiences.

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, University of Manchester | 2021-Present

Creating, converting, and updating teaching materials for flexible learning, as part of Office for Student's national LLE trial. The role requires deep understanding of the materials which cover UX, software engineering, and agile practises. This knowledge is then used through multiple technologies: R and Rmd in RStudio, bash scripting and docker images for builds, and gitlab pipelines for CI/CD. Qualitative assessments are continuously conducted to determine the effectiveness of solutions, with more methodologies to be employed when the trial with students runs later this year.

BA and Developer, Imago Software | 2021

Worked on both UX/UI and developing the complete tech stack for an online toolkit framework that helps charities forced online by the pandemic continue connecting with service users. I worked on UI design and UX prototyping done in Figma, and conducted regular stakeholder feedback sessions. The tech goals required front and back end development work. As BA I worked with the customers to jointly discover what was most valuable for them, created and presented designs and prototypes with the dev-team for feedback and discussion, worked iteratively and incrementally to develop the best solutions possible, while always facilitating dialogue and understanding across the teams.

DISSERTATION PROJECT

Solo-developed Generative Music Application

App architecture, development in Processing, technical reports, and user feedback sessions were all self-lead. As the focus was UX, semi-structured interviews and a phenomenological analytical approach were used to draw out themes, which formed the basis of assessment regarding the project's successes and limitations.

Information on other work available at declankehoe.co.uk/work