

Kassi Burnett, PhD

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Experienced software engineer committed to building polished, high-quality web applications with cutting-edge coding practices. Passionate about problem-solving, learning, and engineering, specializing in SPAs, REST APIs, and GitHub Actions. Known for curiosity, creativity, and meticulous execution, with a strong track record in optimization, security, and mentoring teams. Former award-winning instructor and academic with expertise in mentorship, research, and curriculum development.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Java, Laravel, PHP, SQL, Spring Boot, JavaScript, Vue.js, React.js, Unit Testing (JUnit, PHPUnit), IntelliJ, Git, E/R diagrams, Integration Testing, Unix, HTML, CSS, Responsive Design

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer, EverCommerce

March 2023 - Present

- Performed in-depth security analysis and implemented solutions based on penetration testing (PenTest) findings
- Upgraded security infrastructure by enforcing HTTP/2, HTTP Only flags, and secure session timeouts
- Developed a new authentication system using token-based verification and one-way encryption (BCrypt)
- Automated Git commit history retrieval and code review processes for SOX compliance and security audits
- Designed and implemented CI/CD workflows using GitHub Actions, reducing deployment time by 6000%
- Enhanced SQL database security by integrating automated workflows to prevent unauthorized modifications
- Integrated secure middleware and caching solutions to reduce vulnerabilities and optimize page load speeds
- Trained and mentored engineering team members in object-oriented programming (OOP) and best practices
- Spearheaded the transition to a Feature-Branch Workflow in GitHub, increasing code quality and collaboration
- Led the launch of a new, secure, mobile-responsive website integrating ASP and Laravel platforms

Academic Researcher

2014 - 2023

- Awarded over \$100,000 in high-profile grants for innovative research and service, including a [Fulbright Research Grant](#), [ENGIE-Axiom grant](#), and [Global Arts and Humanities Livability Grant](#)
- Managed team of 20+ and budget of \$3000 to organize international, interdisciplinary, 2-day conference
- Conducted complex database, social media, and textual interdisciplinary research
- Published bilingual research in peer-reviewed academic journals including Oxford and Wehrhahn Verlag
- Presented research insights in 10+ talks and 3 invited lectures across the U.S. and Europe in German and English
- Crafted editorial, nonfiction, and creative writing for Harvard's *Simplicissimus* and *The Columbus Dispatch*

Instructor and Curriculum Developer in German, Ohio State, Denison, Middlebury

2014 - 2022

- Delivered over \$4.1M in instructional services; prepared course materials and provided feedback for 1700+ students
- Received an average evaluation rating of 4.9 out of 5 across 47 courses
- Pioneered OSU's adoption of *Impuls Deutsch*, a multi-modal and accessible German textbook series
- Designed and implemented Ohio State's first-ever online German language classes

EDUCATION

Full-stack Software Development Bootcamp, Tech Elevator

December 2022

- 14-week full-stack coding bootcamp (800+ hours)
- Selected as Represent Tech Scholar

PhD, MA, BA Germanic Languages and Literatures, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

December 2021

Fulbright Research Year, Rachel Carson Center, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany

March 2020

ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE

- **Global cybersecurity workshop at NATO:** Selected alongside NY Times journalist as one of only 2 nominees in Germany by the German and Belgian Fulbright Commissions to travel to Luxembourg and Belgium for [week-long seminar at the EU and NATO headquarters](#); discussed government responses to cyberterrorism
- **Taste Buds:** Designed to find the perfect place to dine. Restaurant matching and voting application using MVC pattern and RESTful APIs. Registered Taste Buds users can search for restaurants in a desired area and create scheduled events. Friends are invited via unique links to view restaurant information and submit votes. Utilizes Java, SpringBoot, JSON, Vue.js, Yelp Fusion API, and PostgreSQL. [Github Link](#)
- **COVIDCare: Developed for the GirlDevelopIt (GDI) Hackathon, Hack4Health.** Built to increase awareness of and access to long COVID resources and to help track long-term symptoms; connects user with COVID-19 statistics and NIH informational web pages; symptoms are recorded in journal entries with the date, COVID-19 test results, and any notes the user wishes to enter; utilizes Java, Spring Boot, SQL, JavaScript, Vue.JS, ElephantSQL