

Enhanced Biography

Gene S Starr

University of South Florida

LIS 4934: Information Studies Senior Capstone

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My name is Gene Starr. My parents come from Peru, but I was born in Tampa, Florida. We lived in Tampa for 21 years until we moved down to Wimauma. Because of my family's background I am able to understand Spanish. My areas of interest are programming and web development.

During my time at the University of South Florida (USF), I completed various courses that have strengthened my understanding of web development as they have built upon each other. The Database Concepts course introduced me to databases, creating them, and using them through Microsoft Access. I also learned the basics of Structured Query Language (SQL) through the course. The WWW Page Design/Management course introduced me to building webpages with HyperText Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), and File Transfer Protocol (FTP) programs. Web Design Technologies would expand on these by teaching me how to create a website with greater interactivity through JavaScript and connecting websites to databases with PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP). This course would also be my introduction to wireframes. The Information Architecture course greatly enhanced my understanding of designing information environments with usability in mind through the use of various systems that involve organization, labels, search, and navigation.

I also have general programming experience. A programming concepts course exposed me to the Python language. An Object-Oriented Programming course would give me some experience in Java. In both courses I would learn concepts such as creating functions and arrays.

For the last couple of years, I had been working at an Advance Auto Parts as my first job to help my family. I would be a key holding Salesperson and considered a manager on duty. I learned valuable skills that would translate well into other work environments. Such as communicating with clients and coworkers. Collaborating with coworkers that have different levels of experience. Problem solving by addressing the issues clients would have or problems with inventory. Adaptability since I would have to learn how to use new tools, applications, adjusting planograms, and working without power. Attention to detail since I would ensure the floor would be completely front and faced as well as completing cycle counts and outages to keep inventory in check. Time management helped me prepare callbacks to send to the warehouse on schedule, manage truck shipments, and complete planograms in a timely manner.

I do also have some volunteer experience. For 2025 I assisted with cleaning up in Tampa. One time was for general clearing of fallen branches and debris on Bayshore to prepare for a garden. Another time was to help with cleaning efforts after Gasparilla in Downtown Tampa by the Riverwalk. I plan to do more this year as I believe they are fun activity to do with family and friends. There is a great sense of pride in the community when it unites to take care of the environment that we love and call home.

To learn more about my work and activities I invite you to explore my portfolio.