

# Benjamin Hogg

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## SUMMARY

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Dedicated software engineer with a background in education, including six years of teaching in Taiwan, where I developed communication, leadership, and problem-solving skills. Earned an MSc in Software Engineering (First Class) by completing projects that demonstrate proficiency in software design, development, and modern web technologies such as React, ASP.NET, and SQL-based databases. Seeking an entry-level position in software development to apply my skill set in a collaborative environment and continue my professional growth.

## SKILLS

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**Full-Stack Web Development:** Proficient in building responsive, user-friendly interfaces and designing RESTful APIs and microservices using HTML, CSS, React, C#, JavaScript, ASP.NET, Azure, Python, Flask, and Google Cloud Platform.

**State Management:** Skilled in managing application state with Redux Toolkit, Zustand, and Tanstack Query for efficient data handling and UI performance.

**API Integration:** Experienced in integrating third-party APIs (e.g., Google Calendar, Google Books) for secure data exchange and enhanced functionality.

**Database Management:** Adept at designing and optimizing relational and NoSQL databases, including SQLite, PostgreSQL, Microsoft SQL Server, and Firebase Firestore, with experience using LINQ for efficient querying and data manipulation.

**Testing and Debugging:** Skilled in unit, integration, and end-to-end testing using Jest, xUnit, Cypress, Postman, and Chrome DevTools.

**Containerization & Orchestration:** Competent with Docker and Kubernetes for containerized application management.

**Performance Optimization:** Experience in lazy loading, caching, code splitting, and other optimization techniques to improve web application performance.

**Security:** Adept at securing web applications using OAuth 2.0 and JWT for secure authentication and authorization.

**Mobile Development:** Experienced in developing iOS applications using Swift and XCode.

**Version Control:** Experienced with Git for version control and collaboration in development teams.

**Software Architecture & Design:** Strong knowledge of OOP, SOLID principles, and design patterns, with experience in scalable software architecture.

**Communication and Collaboration:** Developed strong communication skills through teaching, facilitating effective collaboration in diverse teams, and explaining complex concepts clearly.

## PROJECTS

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### Feast — Full-Stack Meal Planning Web Application

- Developed a full-stack meal planning app using React and .NET, following MCV architecture with controllers, services, and a repository pattern.
- Implemented a responsive drag-and-drop calendar for meal planning, enhancing user interaction.
- Built a custom email service for sending HTML shopping lists and registration emails.
- Employed Entity Framework (ORM) for database management and middleware for currency conversion of ingredient prices.
- Built custom authentication system. Following best practices with access and refresh JWTs and protected routes and endpoints.

### Otaku Books — Full-Stack E-Commerce Web Application

- Created a responsive e-commerce web application with features like role-based access, shopping carts, user reviews, and a custom API for data retrieval.
- Utilized React Router for seamless navigation across views.
- Implemented user roles and authorization in .NET to manage access control for different users (e.g., admin, customer).

- Deployed as a SaaS solution on Azure's cloud platform.

### **TFL Shortest Path Finder — C# Algorithmic Application**

- Built a C# application to calculate the shortest path in the London Transportation network using Dijkstra's algorithm.
- Focused on optimising performance and scalability using only hand-coded data structures.
- Led end-to-end testing, implemented the main loop algorithm, and developed non-library data structures.

### **Page Turner — Book Tracking Mobile Application**

- Developed a mobile application for tracking reading habits using Swift and Firebase Firestore.
- Integrated Google Books API for easy book retrieval via barcode scanning and search.
- Implemented barcode scanning, integrated Google Books API for data fetching and mapping, and ensured the smooth operation of API integration.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **MSc in Software Engineering (First Class Honours)**

University of Westminster • London, United Kingdom • September 2024

### **BA in History**

Saint Mary's University • Halifax, Canada • May 2014

## **EXPERIENCE**

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### **Head Teacher / Content Developer**

Sesame Street English

August 2020 - September 2023, Taipei, Taiwan

- Led and supported a team of ESL instructors, ensuring consistent teaching methods and promoting ongoing skill development.
- Created detailed ESL curriculum materials, including lesson plans, workbooks, and assessments, tailored to enhance learning outcomes.
- Developed gamified learning tools that significantly boosted student engagement and participation.

### **Teacher**

Gloria English School

February 2018 - July 2020, Taoyuan, Taiwan

- Instructed English to diverse age groups, with a focus on improving core language skills, resulting in over 90% of graduating students achieving a 6.0 or higher of the IELTS exam.
- Developed interactive lessons using multimedia tools to effectively address different learning styles.