
IAN KUZMIK - Teacher & Programmer

Ian Kuzmik

kuzmik951@gmail.com

iankuzmik.taprootcoding.com

Familiar Languages:

- HTML/CSS/JS/PHP
- Sass
- Pine Script
- MQL4
- Python
- Bash
- C++
- Swift
- HammerSpoon
- SQL
- English
- Some Spanish
- Little Russian

Familiar Libraries:

- jQuery
- Bootstrap
- React

Other Software:

- GitHub
- Affinity Photo
- WordPress
- npm
- MAMP
- Homebrew
- Scratch
- Thunkable
- Replit
- Google Firebase
- Google Sheets

Programming Experience

My only 'job on paper' in the field of computer science would be my current role as a Coding Instructor. However, my interest in programming has taken me down many paths; below are the three areas I've been most committed to.

Coding Instructor — September 2020 - Present

Create & Learn - Remote

This is a remote teaching position. I currently teach four classes, mostly K-6 kids. I teach three block-based language classes: Scratch, Thunkable, and Micro:bit. Scratch is geared towards absolute beginners. Thunkable is more advanced, good for beginners but also advertised to businesses looking to deploy a simple app across multiple platforms. Micro:Bit focuses on hardware/robotics. I also teach an Intro to Web Development class where kids actually learn HTML/CSS/JavaScript.

The curriculum is set by the company; but I have a lot of freedom in how I teach each individual class. I always enjoy teaching the more advanced students, going beyond the general curriculum and getting more in depth with the coding topics at hand.

In addition to teaching, I also write blog posts for Create & Learn, mostly Scratch tutorials. I really enjoy doing these because it gives me a chance to essentially design my own lesson, balancing a fun game with simple, teachable code. A link to some of these posts can be found on my website's portfolio section.

I love teaching; the biggest downside to this job is that it's so part time, especially during the school year. I would also love the opportunity to face more difficult challenges in specific regards to the actual 'programming' part of my job.

Algorithmic Trading — March 2021 - Present

tapRoot Coding - My Passion Project

This is a hobby of mine. I don't really have any concrete plans to turn this into a profession anytime soon, if ever; any income I've made from it would be considered 'self-employed,' nothing involving outside parties.

I became interested in Cryptocurrency during the surge back in January 2021, which introduced me to trading. That's fun and all, but what I really enjoy is designing algorithms, essentially 'trading bots.' Python is a common language for these purposes, I've also used PHP to help me out in some cases, but most prominently, I write in two platform-specific languages: Pine Script (similar to Python) for TradingView, and MQL4 (similar to C++) for MetaTrader4.

Education:

- TEFL Certification (2019)
- Tulane University: BA - English (2015)
- I also graduated High School (2011)

Other Skills:

- Literary Analysis
- English Grammar
- Cooking
- Lesson Planning
- Communication
- Wild Foraging
- Customer Service
- Shepherdng
- Detail Oriented

Volunteering:

- Meal Delivery for Seniors (2020-2021)
- Museum Docent (2015)
- Middle School Debate Coach (2013)
- Teaching Outreach Overseas (2010)

I have scripts published on [TradingView](#) for Crypto markets, and very recently I've started a [YouTube channel](#) with tutorials on MQL4 for the Foreign Exchange market. The YouTube channel is really an extension of my passion for teaching, I just really enjoy doing it, and I hope to expand it over time to include tutorials for many different subjects related to programming, and perhaps foraging as well.

WordPress Websites — March 2020 - Present

Web development has always been an interest of mine, and struggling with a WordPress website was my first re-introduction to coding some years after taking classes in college. I haven't done this 'professionally' by any means, but I would definitely say I'm comfortable with PHP, JS, CSS, and HTML. Lots of messing around aside, here are four WordPress websites that actually made it online.

RambleBerry WildCraft - Side Hustle: May 2021 - Present

After my wife rebranded from Xochis Apothecary (see below), I redid her [website](#). Decided to go way more hands-off as well as integrate e-commerce. My goal was to build something that not only she designed, but also something she could update and maintain by herself. A heavy amount of custom CSS aside, this website is mostly third party plugins.

Xochis Apothecary - Side Hustle: January 2020 - March 2021

This was the original WordPress website for my wife's side-business. I built the theme from scratch including built-in Instagram integration, contact form, and a custom Google Maps theme. I also utilized the plugins ACF and CPT UI to generate a custom post type for our products in the back end. And I made use of the Bootstrap and jQuery frameworks for productivity.

As far as my experience with Web Development, this is my most complex creation. The only downside was that it was quite a lot of maintenance. I saved the code on my [GitHub](#), and a functional preview of what it looked like can be found at [xochis.taprootcoding.com](#)

Red Lodge Senior Center - Red Lodge, MT: March 2020 - July 2021

Technically my only paid job in this section, I built a WordPress website using Elementor for our local Senior Center. I maintained the website (updates, backups, performance/security enhancements) and took care of any hosting issues until Summer 2021, when I passed the baton to one of the board members I trained. They still use this [website](#)!

Red Lodge Farmers Market - Red Lodge, MT: Spring 2020 - Fall 2020

I was more of a consultant here helping the market manager, all volunteer. I built her a WordPress website using Elementor, taught her how to work with it, and did a little support. This was only up for a year due to budget concerns, and after she resigned, the board eventually redid it with Weebly. Kept my color scheme though, I'm proud to say.

'Not Directly Related' Experience

ESL Teacher — November 2019 - September 2020

VIPKid - Remote

I contracted with VIPKid to teach English to Chinese students (age ~5-14) through an online learning app. Classes were short 25 min blocks and occurred between 3:30 and 6 in the morning. Skills required include: communication, lesson preparation, grammatical/phonetic knowledge, and, for the younger kids, improvisation.

Farmers Market Vendor — January 2017 - September 2021

RambleBerry WildCraft - Red Lodge, MT

My wife founded Xochis Apothecary (now RambleBerry Wildcraft) as a passion project/side-hustle in 2017. Most of our business was at the local farmers markets before we moved; she's slowly transitioning to online sales. She sells tea, incense, salves/oils, and other random stuff she can create with herbs.

I'm the 'Igor' in this operation, and my roles have included: ordering supplies, designing/printing labels, copywriting, website building, foraging ingredients from the wild, finances, and what I'm most proud of: salesman. I love the face-to-face customer interaction at the farmers markets; it's always been my favorite part and something I consider myself to be quite good at by this point.

Property Management — August 2019 - March 2020

W Ranch - Luther, MT

This is a private vacation ranch I helped maintain. I worked under a supervisor for the bulk of this job, but, after he resigned, I assumed his role until the family moved back at the onset of Covid. Duties included: light construction, landscaping, house maintenance, taking care of the animals, odd jobs generally.

Service Industry — Fall 2015 - Spring 2019

I worked at a number of different restaurants during my time in New Orleans and Red Lodge, MT, from pizza to fine dining. Roles included:

Acting Head Chef - Kitchen Manager - Cook - Server - Baker - Prep - Dishwasher

Ranch Hand — August 2015 - October 2015

Rancho Cabron - Baja California, Mexico

This was a very formative couple of months I spent working on a goat dairy. I learned how to milk, shepherd, make cheese, maintain a ranch, and, due to some less than ideal circumstances, forage in the desert. My love of nature and passion for the environment were greatly informed by my time here. I also make a damn fine cheese.
