

Craig Edwards

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During my time as a university teacher and administrator, many business leaders told me if they had to choose between hiring someone with a technical/professional degree or a liberal arts degree, they'd prefer the latter. They said they could teach technical/ professional skills on the job, but not how to write clearly, speak well, think creatively, analyze effectively, think ethically, or empathize. I believe it is exactly these liberal arts skills--learned from my Phd studies and taught and practiced for many years--that will serve me well as I build on my recent full-stack bootcamp experience.

[Coding Temple](#) has given me an excellent foundation in Python, Flask, Jinja, CSS, HTML, and PostgreSQL, which I believe my [Bird on the Brain](#) app confirms. Similarly, my [Bird Brain Philanthropy](#) app shows my ability to create a React shopping site, using BrowserRouter as well as API calls to internal and external, token-protected endpoints. I have also been exposed to MongoDB, Firebase, Express, Java, and Vue.

Based on my own hiring experience, though, reference checks are the most critical component. So, I invite your review of my [LinkedIn recommendations](#) and of these evaluations by students and direct reports as a first step in your reference-checking process.

Students:

- Thank you for taking the extra time to assist me in my work and make me a better student. . . You helped me to realize a bad grade doesn't always mean I'm failing but that I have room to improve.
- I honestly do not know if I would have made it this far without your guidance and words of wisdom.
- This course affected me in ways I never expected. It has been a tough course, if not the toughest. It has helped me expand my fixed mindset and I'm developing a growth mindset.
- Thank you for getting more out of myself than I thought was possible. I will use this experience to challenge myself to continue to learn more about the writing techniques I learned from this course.
- Dr. Edwards is by far the best instructor I have had to date. He pushes his students with difficult course work and critiques, but is always available and easy to get a hold of. He is very quick with his responses and extremely helpful and knowledgeable.
- I am not a fan of English and I have always struggled with the classes all through school. Dr. James Edwards did an amazing job with setting everything up that a student will need for success.

Faculty / Direct Reports:

- You push me to think harder and dig deeper on issues that I would otherwise not think about mainly because they do not effect my day to day duties (such as figuring out a way to make my program more efficient for faculty AND students.)
- Craig has taken charge of the dean's position with great attention to detail, organization, and administration. He has observed the need to address shortcomings, addressing problems with tact while seeking to find effective solutions for the good of the cause without attracting personal attention to these achievements.
- Craig is doing a terrific job! He relentlessly pursues pathways for improved student learning, student retention, educational excellence, equitable policies, clear procedures, honest and open communication, staff development, personal growth, equitable compensation for all, and genuine concern for all employees.
- Craig's strengths are his work ethic, passion, and desire for excellence within academics, care for his faculty and valiant efforts to create a spirit of collaboration for the purpose of scholarship.
- Craig facilitates scholarship initiatives and 'out of the box' thinking toward higher levels of student engagement.
- Craig likes to rely on data-driven tools.
- Craig is definitely committed to change, when needed, and is flexible to changing situations.
- Definitely objective, always fair. Decisions are sound, for the good of the institution.

These are some of the skills that I would love to use to contribute to the aspirations of your organization.

J. A. Craig Edwards