JAMES TEDESCO UX Designer









EDUCATION

B.A. Political Science & French— University of Vermont | 3.6 GPA

Aug 2018 - Present

- Measuring how civic engagement is influenced in the campus environment by comparing Covid-response data with qualitative reporting on civic health for an Honors College thesis.
- Boulder Society "recognizes seniors who demonstrate outstanding leadership, scholarship, and service."
- Awarded U.S. Dept. of State Gilman Scholarship for foreign service studies abroad; awarded the Honors College Career Development Award and Guzak Endowed Arts & Sciences Award to conduct voter research.

French Studies (DUEF) — Université de Caen | Les Notes Françaises: 16.6/20

Jan 2022 - Present

- Arriving without French in January 2022, accelerated out of A2 level to B1+ (CEFR language scale).
- Authoring book-review with professor after attending linguistics class in my free time.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant — Tufts University, Institute for Democracy & Higher Education June 2021 – Jan 2022

- Coded an impact estimator for civic organizers in my free time. Viewed 277 times as measured by Google Analytics, this project includes instructional materials for those interested in learning more.
- Worked with a team to co-author research with a sex-by-gender voter rate disaggregation.
- Captured the complexity of current voter suppression in clear terms with examples for a policy brief.

e-Book Technician — University of Vermont, Student Accessibility Services

Aug 2019 – May 2020

Made e-books accessible to my visually impaired peers by working with a team of specialists, writing browser styles, and partnering with students to better understand their specific needs.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Director & Founder — UVM Votes

Aug 2019 - Jan 2022

- Diversified and augmented the volunteer team to 87 by wireframing email organization extensively before sending. In one such email, 67 students clicked to explore, of whom 49 volunteered.
- Reached 11,604 undergraduates by text with a voter registration link, where Google Analytics shows 2% clicked, 0.3% became users and 0.2% registered as voters online or initiated their state's physical process.
- Understood user preferences by analyzing my peers were 1.7 times more likely to prefer texts over emails, prompting my running a peer-to-peer texting event where 19 volunteers, averaging 30 texts each, to reach 572 students, where 4% registered to vote.
- Gained approval of third parties (e.g. grant distributors, administrators) by harmonizing organizational identities and respecting information hierarchy using space, size, contrast, and color.
- Invited by the Campus Vote Project to explain how my campus became a top performer with peer-to-peer texting, delivered a talk suggesting a UX-first approach to organizing volunteers and designing assets.
- Improved outreach efficacy by tracking link performance and refining our strategy accordingly. For example, as students were more likely to scan a QR code in hand, switched to from posters to handouts.

Director of Civic Education — Every Vote Counts National

June 2021 - Jan 2022

- Served as a specialist on voter data, collaborating semi-synchronously with seven other directors on a national board charged with managing 69 campus chapters.
- Analyzed a legislation database to notify chapters in affected states their voter status is being voted on.
- Created modular gerrymandering presentation, accommodating the varying sizes and needs of chapters.

Developer — Web Design by James

Sept 2020 - Present

- Trek The NEK: Worked with local agricultural producers to promote their last-minute event. Wireframed in Adobe XD, the site saw bounce rates of 65% for new visitors and 50% for those returning.
- UnWaitlist.io: Notified students by text when their course of interest had at least one available place.
- BIPOC Businesses: During Covid-19, aggregated business information to promote marginalized identities.