JAMES TEDESCO
Frontend Developer

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EDUCATION

B.A. Political Science & French — University of Vermont | 3.6 GPA   Aug 2018 – Present
- Honors College thesis: how civic engagement is influenced by the campus environment via comparing Covid-response data with qualitative reporting on civic engagement on campuses.
- 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 linguistics professor after auditing the class in 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 understanding the math.
- Collaborated with a research team to co-author a study disaggregating sex-by-gender voting rates.
- Captured the complexity of current voter suppression in clear terms with examples for a policy brief.

DEV PROJECTS

UVM Votes — Deployed over **Netlify** with a build trigger from **Github**, used **JavaScript** and **Nunjucks** with the **Eleventy SSG** to compile a website which exposed blog features through a **CMS**. An **MX file** provides domain-specific emails.

Trek The NEK — Wireframed in **Adobe XD**, coded as an **SSG in JavaScript with Eleventy** for ticket sales, the bounch rate was **65%** for new users and **50%** for returners according to **Google Analytics**.

UnWaitlist.io — Using the **Google Sheets API** as the backend, an **Azure function** written in **Node.js** used the **Twilio** and **Gmail APIs** to text and email students when the university's courses database revealed their desired course had availability. This was made publically available through a **Nuxt.js** site for accepting course-tracking requests.

BIPOC Businesses — During Covid-19, aggregated business information to promote marginalized identities by converting Excel data to **YAML** and making it searchable, giving business owners accessible control through a **CMS**.

Colorify — Published a **Chrome extension** with **JavaScript** that searches for instances of **CSS-named colors** and then uses the **Mark.js** library to highlight each matching word in its color.

Playing Cards — Coded a live-time card game in JS, including game admin functionalities, with **Google's Firestore API**.

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. In response, I ran an event where 19 volunteers, averaging 30 texts each, reached 572 students where 4% registered to vote.
- Gained approval of third parties (e.g. grant distributors, administrators) by harmonizing organizational identities via respecting information hierarchy with space, size, contrast, and color.

Director of Civic Education — Every Vote Counts National   June 2021 – Jan 2022
- Served as a specialist of voter data on a national board with seven other directors, collaborating semi-synchronously to manage 69 campus chapters.
- Analyzed a legislation database to notify chapters in affected states their voter status is being legislated.
- Empowered chapters of any size to lead civic education discussions by sharing modular workshop kits.