

Lauren Colls

Web Developer — Laurencolls.com

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ABOUT ME

Last year I developed a slot machine application for the purpose of studying the behavioural effects of different slot machine features for my MSc research. Through this, I discovered a capacity and enthusiasm for programming and went on to study web development at Enspiral Dev Academy. Here I was trained as a full-stack JavaScript developer and gained experience developing with Node.js, and a constantly expanding list of modern frameworks. Now I am focused on continuous learning and finding a web development role in a team that holds similar values.

EXPERIENCE

Web Developer in training — Enspiral Dev Academy (EDA), Wellington

February 2016 - July 2016

A 19-week web development programme that provided intensive and practical programming experience that focused on:

- full-stack JavaScript (Node.js, ES5/6, Express, React.js, Redux)
- object orientated programming
- MVC architecture
- SQL and noSQL databases
- TDD
- pair programming
- engineering empathy
- agile development
- HTML5, CSS3, Sass

Research Assistant — Litmus, Wellington

December 2014 - Present

My role here has focused on the preparation of qualitative research materials for publication and involved:

- working to strict deadlines
- literature reviews, database searches
- audio transcription
- data analysis
- handling confidential and sensitive data
- supporting senior research analysts in their roles

Focus Group Host — INK, Wellington

December 2014 - Present

A client facing role, in which I ensured focus groups ran smoothly and without incident, this involved:

- resolving technical issues
- fulfilling special requirements of the client, i.e. note-taking or catering

KEY SKILLS

Problem Solving - I enjoy the excitement of coming up with creative solutions for complex problems.

Learning - I have a proven ability to learn difficult concepts quickly and am motivated in environments where learning is ongoing.

Collaboration - Interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a team are strengths.

Strong Communicator - Practiced in both oral and written communication.

TECHNOLOGIES

JavaScript (ES5/ES6)	Node.js
JQuery	Express
Tape	React.js
HTML	Redux
CSS	Nightwatch
Visual Basic	OAuth
	SQL

Freelance Web Development — Wellington

December 2015 – Present

I have been involved in the development of two small sites: a videographer's portfolio with specific design requirements, and small business site with less specific guidance. Both projects required clear communication and understanding of the client's needs. These projects are ongoing.

Research Assistant — Human Behaviour Laboratory, Victoria University of Wellington

July 2014 - April 2016

My primary role was to assist in the preparation of quantitative research materials for journal publication, this included:

- statistical analysis of datasets, data collection and entry
- oral presentation of research
- keeping accurate records of experiments
- safeguarding the confidentiality of participants

Tutor — School of Psychology, Victoria University of Wellington

March 2015 - April 2016

I tutored both a first year (Introduction to Psychology 2) and third year (Behaviour Analysis) paper. These both involved communicating complex ideas and leading students in classroom discussions.

Interviewer — Applied Developmental Laboratory, Victoria University of Wellington

September 2015 - November 2015

I conducted interviews with children in years 3 and 4, following a strict interview guide, this required clear communication with the school and teachers to minimize classroom disruption.

EDUCATION

Master of Science with Distinction in Behavioural Psychology — Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

April 2015 - April 2016

I investigated the effect of near win outcomes on slot machine gambling behaviour. For this I developed a simulated slot machine application using Visual Basic in Visual Studio.

Bachelor of Science with Honours in Psychology — Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

March 2010 - November 2014

This was a classroom and thesis based programme, for which I used eye-tracking technology to study the conditions in which human observing behaviour can be disrupted.

TOOLS

Sublime Text	Linux
Github	Windows
NPM	OSX
Visual Studio	Heroku

INTERESTS

Experimenting and building useless programs

Playing with clay, pottery and ceramics

Squash, indoor netball, yoga

All things tech!

PROJECTS

Eatr — Restaurant finding application based on user location with a tinder-like interface.

The final project for EDA, worked on by a team of four. The aim of this project was to build on all of the knowledge we had gained over the previous weeks.

Check out github.com/Eatr/eatr

Flipper — A gendered language converter.

This program can take text or a twitter users feed and flip all gendered language. The aim of this project was to practice and experiment with APIs, MVC, and different parts-of-speech modules.

Check out github.com/lau-ren/flipper

REFERENCES

Available on request.