Rafael José

Junior Gameplay Developer

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Gameplay programmer focused on building responsive and engaging game systems. I implement gameplay logic, AI behaviors, and UI/UX systems with technical structure and design understanding. Experienced in collaborative environments including university-led game studios and R&D internships, working with multidisciplinary teams. Proficient in Unity (C#), Git/GitHub, and project management tools.

EXPERIENCE

Universidade Lusófona - Centro Universitário Lisboa, Lisbon
March 2025 - June 2025

Research Development Internship

Work on a real-time fire spread visualization system using Unity. Focus on performance optimization, GPU-based shaders, and realistic terrain-based fire progression.

ARR Studios, Lisbon
September 2023 - Present

Game Developer

Designed and implemented core gameplay systems including inventory, crafting, and enemy behaviors in a university-led game studio environment. Developed various user interface systems (menus, HUDs, settings) using Unity UI Toolkit and custom C# scripts. Collaborated in a multidisciplinary academic team to deliver polished vertical slices for multiple internal game projects. Participated in playtesting, iteration, and balancing sessions to refine gameplay feel and UX.

Sugal Group, Azambuja
July 2021 - September 2023

Weighbridge Operator & Gatekeeper

July 2021, July 2022, July 2023 - September of each year (3 seasonal periods)
Main Responsibilities: Customer service, visitor assistance, communication with drivers and staff, overseeing the entry, weighing, and exit of deliveries, access control, and problem-solving.

EDUCATION

Universidade Lusófona - Centro Universitário Lisboa
September 2022 - July 2025

Videogames, Computer Games and Programming Skills

Grade: Merit

Escola Secundária de Azambuja
September 2019 - January 2022

Science and Technology Course

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Speaking & Presentations:
- **Guest Speaker:** Game Post-Mortem Presentation - Delivered project development insights to first-year students at Universidade Lusófona

Workshops & Masterclasses:
- Masterclass: Game-driven Inventions: A Creator's Journey - Robert J. Mical
- Artificial Intelligence in Games - Phil Lopes
- Unity Fundamentals - Diogo Andrade
- Game Design Classics - Wilson Almeida
- 3D Art From the Start - Miguel Martinho
- Game Design Fundamentals - Wilson Almeida
- Game Sound Design - João Bernardo
- Character Design for Games - Inês Garcia / Tiago Cruz
- Unreal Engine Workshop - Luís Monteiro
- 3D and Unity Workshop - Miguel Martinho

Industry Events:
- Lisbon Games Week - Showcased games at Universidade Lusófona's stand
- Multiple specialized sessions on Game Design, AI, 3D Modeling, Programming, and Sound Design

TOP SKILLS

- Programming
- Game Development
- Game Design
- C#
- Python

LANGUAGES

English (Full professional proficiency), **Portuguese** (Native), **Spanish** (Limited working proficiency)

HONORS AND AWARDS

"The Special is 42 2024" Award (Magical Intern)   July 2024
Universidade Lusófona

Lusófona Games Collection 2024 (Magical Intern)   July 2024
Universidade Lusófona

"Especial 42 (Special 42)" Award (Shadow Chase)   July 2023
Universidade Lusófona

CERTIFICATIONS

Udemy - Make Online Games Using Unity's NEW Multiplayer Framework   June 2024
Credential ID: UC-34dc7359-316f-4401-8469-0a40d9c19e04
Show Credential

Udemy - Complete C# Unity Game Developer 3D   February 2024
Credential ID: UC-38a30074-3a0c-4391-8b37-ea7547f39fa5
Show Credential

Udemy - The Art of Doing: Video Game Creation With Python and Pygame   January 2023
Credential ID: UC-671d8c31-55bf-46f8-8638-8a01565b42df
Show Credential

Udemy - Python 3 for Beginners | Learn by Creating a Simple Game   November 2022
Credential ID: UC-2531d24f-5fd5-4fc3-b8f5-2e28788ac0d0
Show Credential

Recode - Internet of Things   July 2022
Credential ID: 62be4ff0-75d0-475b-bdf3-2f9d0a01006b

Recode - Project Management and Impact Applications   July 2022
Credential ID: 62d9ec1a-16d4-4442-8f93-6db00a01006b

Cisco Certified Network Associate - Linux   June 2022

Cisco Certified Network Associate - Cybersecurity   June 2022

Google Certifications - Digital Marketing   June 2022
Credential ID: J2X L3J U9Z

Recode - AI   June 2022
Credential ID: 62b286c2-bc90-44ee-bb55-65210a01006b

Recode - DevOps   June 2022
Credential ID: 62b53070-54e0-49cf-9808-6fe30a01006b

Recode - Excel in Practice   June 2022
Credential ID: 62bd0838-5174-4a69-8f77-27010a01006b