

NICOLE FAVELA

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with Minor in Mathematics

Dec 2022

GPA: 3.82 / 4.0

Achievements: Dean's List (fall 2019, fall 2020, 2021), Microsoft Annual Scholarship recipient, graduated Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Software/AI Developer at Series startup

April 2024-Present

- Spearheaded the revamp of the Vera AI chatbot, enhancing its ability to facilitate natural conversations and forge industry connections, significantly improving user engagement and satisfaction.
- Refined AI chatbot leading to an increase in user satisfaction and engagement by improving conversational flow and response accuracy.
- Developed automation processes to perform repetitive tasks and send personalized emails and texts with the use of AI.
- Efficiently scraped, aggregated, and processed large volumes of user data and conversations, resulting in a seamless migration to Firebase and improved data accessibility for the development team.
- Successfully onboarded and mentored new interns, fostering their professional growth and enhancing team productivity through structured guidance and support.

Undergraduate TA at UTEP

Sept. - Dec. 2022

- Delivered constructive grading on homeworks, labs, and exercises to cultivate students' growth and understanding.
- Facilitated demos for omok projects in PHP, Dart, and Haskell.
- Provided personalized guidance and support during weekly office hours both in person and online via Teams, ensuring students' comprehension of complex theory and programming concepts.

PROJECTS:

Movie Recommendation Engine

Jan. 2024

- Engineered a recommendation engine web app using React and Flask, facilitating user searches across a 10,000-movie database from TMDb and enabling the saving of favorite selections via PostgreSQL.
- Utilized recommendation algorithm using TF-IDF vectors and cosine similarity calculations with data streamed from AWS S3 to provide personalized, context-driven movie suggestions.
- Developed secure login and registration using JWT tokens and Flask authentication, supporting multi-user access and enhancing application security.

Netflix Clone MERN Stack App: Hosted on Render

Dec. 2023

- Utilized TMDb API, MUI components, React Redux, and JWT authentication to develop a feature-rich Netflix clone.
- Engineered intuitive movie layouts categorized by popularity and genre, optimizing content discovery and navigation.
- Enhanced user interaction by enabling functionalities such as adding/removing movies from 'My List', watching trailers, and viewing detailed movie information and recommendations.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Machine Learning

spring 2022

- Learned foundational concepts of supervised and unsupervised learning, feature engineering, and data cleaning.
- Delved into the mathematical foundations of algorithms and methods like gradient descent, neural networks, k-means clustering, loss functions, nlp tasks and decision trees.
- Implemented and trained these models in practical labs and projects using TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, NumPy, and Pandas.

SKILLS

Frameworks and databases:

- Frontend:** React.js, Next.js, Bootstrap, MUI
- Backend:** Flask, FastAPI, Node.js, Next.js, Express.js, MongoDB, Postgres, Google Cloud Firestore, and MySQL

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Clubs: RTC (Rewriting the Code) Early Career, Women Who Do Data (W2D2), and SWE (Society of Women Engineers) member

Hackathons & Events: DEVCOM Cyber-Security hackathon