# Nikhil Naikar, MEng

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Portfolio Website - https://nikhilnaikar-homepage.vercel.app/

## SUMMARY

Master's Graduate in Software Engineering with proven skills in AWS and AI, alongside industry experience in web development, project management, and client relations. Currently seeking an opportunity to apply my skills, collaborate with experienced professionals to solve business challenges, and grow within a dynamic team.

## SKILLS

- **Front-end:** HTML, CSS, JavaScript, TypeScript, React, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Shadcn
- **Back-end:** Python, Java, C#, ASP.NET Core, Spring Boot, JUnit, Node.js
- **Cloud and DevOps:** Linux, AWS, Docker, Terraform, Bash, Shell Scripting, Jenkins
- **Other:** Git, PostgreSQL, MySQL, Jira, Slack
- **Certificates:** AWS Solutions Architect Associate, AWS Cloud Practitioner, studying for Terraform Associate

## EXPERIENCE

**Benevity - Software Engineer Intern**
May 2023 – Aug 2023

- Collaborated effectively with a cross-functional team to develop a feature similar to Spotify's 'Wrapped' summaries for Benevity's platform, serving 10M+ users and deployed to AWS.
- Achieved a 95% client satisfaction score by working in an Agile environment and ensuring continuous, effective communication with stakeholders via Slack and weekly meetings to gather feedback, validate progress, and meet project requirements.
- Created RESTful APIs with Java and Spring Boot, achieving optimized response times of under 200ms for simple requests and under 2 seconds for complex processes.
- Accelerated deployment by 50% and improved reliability by removing human error through automation, using a CI/CD pipeline with Jenkins, Docker, and GitHub.

**Siemens Energy - Project Manager Intern**
May 2021 – Aug 2022

- Enhanced project efficiency by supporting the lead project manager across multiple service project lifecycles with budgets ranging from $300-500k, particularly during the implementation stage.
- Oversaw procurement by obtaining budget-compliant quotes to keep the project within budget, and managed site logistics by coordinating and scheduling equipment delivery to and from the site upon project completion.
- Established strong client relationships by building trust through leading weekly meetings with the client and the consulting professional engineers to discuss progress, address concerns, and outline next steps.
- Reduced delays by providing on-site support to quickly respond to emergent needs, assist with labor tasks, and ensured 100% compliance by having all team members complete necessary training and certifications.

## EDUCATION

**Master of Engineering in Software Engineering**
University of Calgary | Graduated Nov 2023 | GPA: 3.9/4.0

**Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with Distinction**
University of Calgary | Graduated Apr 2022 | GPA: 3.4/4.0

## CLOUD AND DEVOPS PROJECTS

**Portfolio Website**

- Utilized Terraform to automate the setup and management of AWS infrastructure, accelerating deployment and testing by 70%. Leveraged Git/GitHub for version control and created reusable code modules to standardize infrastructure across projects.
- Deployed the application on an Amazon Linux EC2 instance, limiting access through security groups and ensuring secure SSH access using a .pem key.
- Simplified the boot-up process by using bash scripts to automate the installation of necessary services like Docker and securely retrieve credentials from AWS Secrets Manager.
- Improved performance and reduced latency by up to 60% by integrating CloudFront, which cached content closer to users, while enhancing security with DDoS protection and SSL encryption via AWS Certificate Manager.
- Plan to create a custom VPC to strengthen security and implement a CI/CD pipeline using Jenkins to streamline continuous integration for static website content.

## WEB DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

**The Podcast Platform**

Demo Link - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XS7b3M92oP0

- Created an application for hosting podcasts with AI-powered features, including text-to-multiple-voices functionality and AI-generated images, with OpenAI's generative AI models (TTS & DALL·E 3).
- Built front-end using Next.js, utilized React server components to improve performance and middleware functions to authenticate users securely with Clerk.
- Utilized Shadcn component library and Tailwind CSS to design a beautiful responsive user interface for both mobile and desktop users.

**HNM Clothing Store**

More info - https://github.com/Nikhil-Naikar/HNM-Clothing-Store

- Collaborated with a team to build an e-commerce website enabling users to browse and purchase clothing, while also allowing admin users to manage the inventory by adding, editing, or deleting items.
- Implemented a SQLite database and used the SQLAlchemy library to efficiently execute numerous SQL queries.
- Developed the back-end using Python and Flask, and created the front-end with Bootstrap components, HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to deliver a seamless user experience.

**Clock In Clock Out**

More info - https://github.com/Nikhil-Naikar/Clock-In-Clock-Out

- Created a full-stack application for restaurant businesses that allows employees to easily clock in/out of shifts, and view their shift and pay history.
- Built RESTful APIs with Java and Spring Boot, while following the SOLID object-oriented design principles and utilized a MySQL database to store all the data.
- Created a Vue.js app using a component-based architecture, and integrated Pinia for front-end state management.
- Simplified deployment and operation of the app by creating Docker files for both the front-end and back-end.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROJECTS

**Airbnb Pricing Intelligence**

More info - https://github.com/Nikhil-Naikar/Airbnb-Pricing-Intelligence

- Worked with a team to create a predictive AI model to assist Airbnb hosts in setting competitive prices and to help customers evaluate pricing fairness.
- Accelerated development by leveraging distributed computing with Databricks and PySpark, and by prompting ChatGPT for data labeling.
- Built a Natural Language Processing (NLP) model to perform sentiment analysis on the reviews, and tested the models with various classification and regression algorithms.