

# Karolina Balszan

London, UK | [kbalszan@gmail.com](mailto:kbalszan@gmail.com) | [linkedin.com/in/karolina-balszan](https://linkedin.com/in/karolina-balszan) | [github.com/balszan](https://github.com/balszan)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

---

**Languages:** JavaScript, Java, Python, SQL, HTML, CSS  
**Frameworks & Libraries:** React, Node.js, Express.js, Next.js, Spring Boot  
**Databases:** MongoDB  
**Developer Tools:** Git, VS Code, IntelliJ  
**Other:** Tailwind CSS, Zustand, Webpack, RabbitMQ, UML

## EDUCATION

---

### University of West London

BSc Computer Science (First Class Honours)

London, UK

Sept. 2020 – May 2024

## COURSEWORK

---

### Final Year Project: Parallel Processing in Microservices Architecture | Java, Spring Boot, RabbitMQ

- Grade: 83%
- Implemented **LMAX Disruptor** in a microservices architecture, achieving up to 77.49% reduction in processing time
- Designed and developed a scalable order processing system using **Java**, **Spring Boot**, and **RabbitMQ**

### Group Research Project: E-commerce Website Development | Shopify

- Grade: 77%
- Led a team in developing a functional gym clothing and supplement e-commerce website using Shopify
- Managed project timeline and coordinated team efforts as **project leader**

### Applied Software Engineering | UML, OCL, Java

- Grade: 80%
- Developed comprehensive **UML** diagrams including use case, class, and sequence diagrams for a knowledge management system
- Applied object-oriented design principles to create modular and extensible software using **Java** and **OCL**

## PROJECTS

---

### FoodShop | JavaScript, React.js, Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Zustand, Stripe API www.foodshop.balszan.dev

- Built a full-stack e-commerce application using **Next.js**, combining frontend and backend functionality
- Implemented state management with **Zustand** and integrated **Stripe API** for secure payments
- Created a dynamic cart system and responsive design using **Tailwind CSS**
- Applied best practices including server-side rendering and client-side state management

### BirdCheck | HTML, CSS, JavaScript, React.js www.birdcheck.netlify.app

- Developed a **React**-based application fetching and displaying recent UK bird sightings using **eBird** and **Flickr APIs**
- Implemented interactive **Leaflet** maps to visualize bird spotting locations
- Utilized **localStorage** for persistent storage of user data
- Ensured W3C validation standards and incorporated accessibility best practices

### Portfolio Website | HTML, CSS, JavaScript www.balszan.dev

- Designed and developed a personal portfolio website to showcase projects and skills
- Implemented responsive design adapting to various screen sizes
- Enhanced user experience with aesthetic transitions and smooth navigation

## EXPERIENCE

---

### Self-Employed Childcare Provider

Sept. 2021 – Present

London, UK

- Successfully managed a self-employed childcare business alongside my computer science degree, showcasing initiative, time management, and client relations skills