

BENJAMIN BLATTBERG

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WEB DEVELOPER

Skillset

Ruby • Ruby on Rails • Sinatra • Test-Driven Development • RSpec • JavaScript • jQuery • Modular Design
Chrome Extension Architecture • SQL/PostgreSQL • ActiveRecord • HTML • CSS • Foundation
Algorithms • Git Version Control • MVC Principles • Composition and Communication

Summary

Trained educator and writer turned web developer. Passionate about designing and implementing web technology. Adaptive programmer who enjoys new challenges and seeks continuous improvement. Adept at learning new skills and toolsets in web development. Collaborative, team-oriented, experienced in facilitating communication.

Selected Projects and Achievements

- *ShareCare: a Rails-based app for sharing team-oriented tasks, focused on caretaking*
 - Tech stack: Ruby, Rails, JavaScript, jQuery, HTML, CSS, Foundation.
 - Designed SQLite database models with ActiveRecord for fast performance.
 - Implemented RESTful routing with multiple models and user security.
 - *Shush!: a Chrome extension for blocking spoilers on Twitter based on user input*
 - Tech stack: JavaScript, jQuery, chrome.extension* API, JS Mutation Observers.
 - Researched and adhered to best practices for Chrome extension architecture.
 - Extended project to continuously monitor tweets with new technology.
 - *Efficient Errands: a Ruby app for mapping efficient routes, developed with three other developers*
 - Tech stack: Ruby, Sinatra, JavaScript, jQuery, Google Maps API.
 - Role: Traveling Salesman Problem solution algorithm development and user interface.
 - Accepted into and excelled at MakerSquare, an immersive accelerated learning program for web development.
 - Completed the improvisation and comedy writing tracks at the Second City (Chicago).
 - Publications in and presentations to the Science Fiction Research Association, University of Chicago English Conference, New York Review of Science Fiction, Bard Journal of Social Sciences, and multiple online venues.
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Education

MakerSquare Development Bootcamp, Graduate of the Full-Time Accelerated Learning Program

University of Chicago, MA in English

Bard College, BA in Literature

Work History

Kirkus Media • 2012—present

Book Reviewer – Reviewed books according to house style, writing for clarity and directness in succinct format.

Shmoop University, Inc. • 2010—2013

Literature Content Provider – Wrote accessible, humorous student study guides for online use; continually liaised with editorial staff to maintain channels of communication.

University of Chicago • 2005—2010

Composition Instructor – Taught composition, rhetoric, and argument; responsible for leading discussion and ensuring clarity of material.

Lecturer – Designed and taught course on science fiction in the 19th century, the first of its kind at the University of Chicago.

Regenstein Library • 2004—2009

Digital Imaging Technician – Scanned delicate archival materials, responding to fluctuating demands and priorities.