Benjamin Joseph Cortese

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EDUCATION

University of Florida — Aug. 2020 - May 2024
B.S. Computer Science, B.S. Mathematics
- GPA: 3.97 / 4.0
- Relevant Courses: Data Structures and Algorithms, Operating Systems, Computer Networking, Applied Machine Learning, Database Systems, Competitive Programming, Probability, Combinatorics, Linear Algebra

EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant — Aug. 2021 – Present
University of Florida — *Gainesville, FL*
- Helped teach Data Structures and Algorithms, OS, Programming Language Concepts and Discrete Structures
- Hosted office hours for over 575 students and held a discussion session where I taught over 50 students weekly
- Produced over 100 new code test cases and improved old ones using Python and Kotlin

UF Quant Club Treasurer — Aug. 2023 – Present
University of Florida — *Gainesville, FL*
- Networked with Quantitative Finance firms to get our club funding and developed our sponsorship prospectus
- Organized Jane Street Estimathon event twice and a poker tournament, got our club sponsored by Jane Street
- Spearheaded technical workshops and general body meetings, explaining Operating Systems and interview prep

Software Engineering Intern — May 2023 – Aug. 2023
Microsoft — *Redmond, WA*
- Worked on Azure Upstream Infrastructure team in Azure Core working on open source cloud computing libraries
- Constructed a Kubernetes controller using Go which caches the nodes' operating system image
- Accelerated horizontal scaling speeds for new deployments to be 85x faster on newly instantiated nodes

UF Engaging Learning Lab — Aug. 2021 – Sept. 2022
Research Assistant — *Gainesville, FL*
- Researched methods for improving computer science education and worked on improving existing learning models
- Developed a parser which parsed the Java programming language using Javascript to improve block based teaching

Software Engineering Intern — May 2022 – Aug. 2022
Microsoft — *Redmond, WA*
- Interned on Azure Container Registries and migrated self-managed Kubernetes orchestrator to a more scalable one
- Utilized Python, Docker, Kubernetes, Helm, Bash, and YAML for deployment migration
- Enhanced image loading service to remove redundancy on a service which receives 18,000 requests per second

PROJECTS

Aprendo | *Javascript, Python, Typescript, React, Chrome API* — Dec. 2023 – Present
- Designed and implemented a question generation tool as a chrome extension which asks questions during videos
- Expanding to other domains with a website and applying research knowledge to youtube video watching experience

Edugator Website | *Javascript, Typescript, React, Node.js, Tailwind, AWS* — Jan. 2023 – May. 2023
- Improved education focused website similar to Leetcode to enhance the teaching assistant experience
- Shipped features which have been used to help over 2000 students to better learn Data Structures and Algorithms

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: C++, Python, Go, Java, Javascript, C, C#, R, Kotlin, SQL
Frameworks/Markup Languages: Django, Flask, React, Next.js, Express.js, FastAPI, HTML, CSS

AWARDS

Neo Scholar Finalist — July 2023
Cottmeyer Family Scholarship ($5000) — April 2023
International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) Medalist — February 2023
Georgia Tech Hackathon Best Retro Hack Award Winner — October 2022
Gartner Group Information Technology Scholarship ($1000) — April 2022