

BENJAMIN BLACK

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benjaminblack.consulting/projects

AI and data strategist with deep experience building enterprise-grade AI systems, leading data governance and analytics modernization, and driving cross-functional transformation across financial services and government. Known for delivering scalable platforms and aligning diverse teams around meaningful outcomes. MIT Sloan MBA.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Benjamin Black Consulting | Boston, MA

10/2025 – Present

Independent AI Strategist & Builder

Designing and developing enterprise-grade AI systems, portfolio projects, and advisory assets.

- Synthesized AI implementation patterns from 20+ financial institutions and delivered a proprietary framework and toolkit to accelerate client scaling from pilots to production.
- Produced production-grade RAG, governance dashboards, and financial-services analytics tools; LLM orchestration, vector search, data pipelines, evaluation frameworks.
- Developed enterprise-wide AI governance frameworks for a FinTech client, reducing compliance risk by 20% and accelerating production readiness for agentic and generative applications.

KeyLogic Associates (*assigned to Kessel Run*) | Bedford, MA

9/2024 – 10/2025

Deputy Project Leader - Data Governance, Architecture & Modeling, CDO Office

- Lead research on data governance frameworks, AI capabilities, and ZT (zero-trust) frameworks for CIO and CDO.
- Coordinated workstreams and managed priorities across two ten-member teams to DoD stakeholders.

Benjamin Black Consulting | Boston, MA

8/2022 – 9/2024

Principal Consultant

Focused on data strategy, governance, and analytics transformation across financial-services organizations.

Edward Jones — Enterprise Data Strategy & Governance

- Designed and operationalized a firm-wide strategy for data culture, literacy, and governance.

Darling Consulting Group — Data Strategy & Analytics Portal

- Assessed enterprise data practices and led development of a client-facing analytics portal.

MANTL (*Capital G-funded omnichannel account-opening platform*) | Remote

2/2021 – 6/2022

Principal Systems Analyst – Activations

- Collaborated with client bank, core banking providers (Fiserv Premier SOA & Signature, Jack Henry) and MANTL engineers to connect omnichannel account-opening technology via APIs.
- Tested and refined XML transactions using Postman, GitHub, VS Code in an agile environment.

Benjamin Black Consulting | Boston, MA

7/2016 – 1/2021

Principal Consultant

Focused on AI/ML commercialization, data governance, and analytics modernization for top financial institutions.

Square (AI/ML startup) — Go-to-Market & Product Strategy

- Defined early AI/ML product offerings, value propositions, and GTM strategy targeting asset managers.

Vestmark — WealthTech Platform & Client Delivery

- Directed agile delivery of integrations, customizations, and enhancements for top broker-dealer and wealth-management clients.

John Hancock Investments (via Olmstead Associates) — SEC Modernization Architecture

- Designed the data architecture, governance model, and full data-lineage for SEC modernization compliance.
- Mapped systems, interfaces, and data sources across custodians, sub-advisers, pricing feeds, and IBOR.

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Benjamin Black Consulting | Boston, MA

7/2016 – 1/2021

Olmstead Associates — Data Management Frameworks

- Developed reusable client-assessment and governance frameworks deployed across asset-management clients for migration readiness and regulatory compliance.

Fidelity Investments — Finance IT Data Strategy

- Created a data-strategy roadmap optimizing compute, storage, and analytics workflows for Finance IT.
- Evaluated architecture and governance practices against strategic objectives, surfaced risks and alignment gaps.

Knowledgent Group, Inc. (acquired by Accenture) | Boston, MA

12/2014 – 6/2016

Senior Consultant

John Hancock Financial Services — Azure Big Data Platform & Enterprise Analytics

- Designed and launched a Microsoft Azure-based Hadoop data lake and shared big-data service supporting all investment and business units.
- Defined analytics use cases, success metrics, and proof-of-value criteria to accelerate adoption of cloud analytics.
- Built dynamic C-suite business intelligence dashboards (QlikView/Tableau).
- Developed and optimized data models, pipelines, and workflows across structured and unstructured sources.
- Analyzed datasets in SQL, Python, R, and PowerShell to validate quality, ingestion logic, and analytic outputs.

Santander Bank, N.A. (Sovereign Bank) | Boston, MA

2/2010 – 12/2014

Platform Product Lead

- Product lead on bank's core enterprise transactional/content platform for 10,000+ users; a global strategic asset.
- Led the U.S. rollout of a Spain-developed platform, building the team, governance model, controls framework, and operational processes, driving business process redesign and change management across multiple units.
- Directed requirements, process design, vendor management, and continuous improvement for a mission-critical internal system.
- Delivered three CEO-priority software initiatives on schedule and budget.

Fidelity Investments | Boston, MA

6/2008 – 4/2009

Senior Analyst – Strategic Modeling & Analysis, Fidelity Technology Group

- Advised product managers on best practices for unified customer communication.
- Subject matter expert on digital consumer analytics and shared insights in widely distributed internal reports.
- Assessed feasibility of \$300M business case through a systems dynamics model of contact center operations.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

AI/ML/Data Science: RAG, LLM Evaluation, Embeddings, Python (for data workflows), R, Spark, MLOps.

Cloud/Data Platforms: AWS, Azure, GCP, Snowflake, SQL, Data Governance (Modeling, Lineage, Quality).

BI/Tooling: Power BI, Tableau, Jira.

EDUCATION

MIT Sloan School of Management | Cambridge, MA

MBA, Strategy, Finance & Innovation

Tufts University | Medford, MA

B.A., Economics; International Relations; German Studies

- Semester abroad in Berlin; fluent in German.