

Nicholas “Blake” Simmons

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Experience

Arkansas State University

Feb. 2018 – Present

Lead Full Stack Web Developer, Information & Technology Services

Jonesboro, AR

- ❖ Proposed and created custom applications that replaced multiple vendor contracts, resulting in \$100k+ savings for the university.
- ❖ Constructed a web application portal and single sign-on system, utilized by over 20,000 users across multiple campuses in the system.
- ❖ Collaborated with campus constituents to plan how our development team could implement applications to fulfill their needs.
- ❖ Developed a COVID self-check web application used by 15,000 users daily, allowing campus admins to keep a pulse on overall campus wellbeing.
- ❖ Assessed active web projects using analytics and logs, shutting down unused applications, trimming our actively supported applications by 30%.
- ❖ Maintained over a dozen Windows and Linux servers for production, testing, and devops uses.
- ❖ Migrated university-critical web properties to utilize AWS's EC2 and Lambda services
- ❖ Mentored other developers on our tech stack as well as requesting feedback on how to improve internal processes.
- ❖ Assisted the team in managing over 30 single sign-on implementations for third-party vendors and internal applications.

Arkansas State University

Feb. 2016 – Feb. 2018

Front End Developer, Marketing

Jonesboro, AR

- ❖ Developed and maintained all CSS and JS as the sole developer for the main university website
- ❖ Created custom templates from designs provided by the Marketing team used to launch auxiliary websites
- ❖ Interpreted analytics data to make informed decisions about content and usage across the site
- ❖ Maintained existing components and crafted new ones using front-end languages and Velocity code

Flower Shop Network

July 2015 – Feb. 2016

Web Developer

Paragould, AR

- ❖ Assisted in developing an internationalized e-commerce platform for clients
- ❖ Identified potential issues and devised comprehensive solutions
- ❖ Pioneered additional tools to expedite development workflow
- ❖ Supported senior developers in removing technical debt

Arkansas State University

Oct. 2012 – July 2015

Website Developer/Editor

Jonesboro, AR

- ❖ Assisted in developing an internationalized e-commerce platform for clients
- ❖ Pioneered additional tools to expedite development workflow
- ❖ Supported senior developers in removing technical debt

Hillcrest High School

Oct. 2011 – Sept. 2014

Website Administrator

Strawberry, AR

- ❖ Developed new site with custom CMS and campus email alert notification system using MailChimp

Freelance Experience

2021 - Utilizing the TALL stack, I created a responsive, user-friendly web application, acting as a database for a local freight company to handle their customers, orders, and various rate data.

2018 - Built a web app for a local construction company that allowed their clients to upload project documentation. Office staff at the construction company could then view those documents in a checklist type view and make notes both internally and to the client.

2017 - 2019 - Created a web app that stored and processed data that admins could import from an external system. Leveraging the Mailchimp API and the imported data, each customer on their mailing list would receive an email containing a unique QR code embedded for them to redeem inside the business.

Education

Arkansas State University

Bachelor of Science, Computer & Information Technology

May 2015

Jonesboro, AR

- ❖ Member of Honors College and Association of Information Technology Professionals
- ❖ Honors certificate recipient

Skills & Interests

- ❖ **Skills:** PHP, Laravel, Tailwind, Livewire, HTML, CSS and SCSS, Git, Javascript, AlpineJS, jQuery, Bootstrap, SQL
- ❖ **Working knowledge:** VueJS, Linux and Window Server administration, Docker, AWS services and components, WordPress theming
- ❖ **Interests:** 3D printing, building PCs, home automation, PC gaming (FPS, RTS, simulation), homelab