

Charles Lesser

github.com/chlesser

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Early career VR developer and game designer

Education

BS Computer Science: Game Design (in progress) '27

University of California, Santa Cruz

Experience

Research Assistant, SET lab at UC Santa Cruz

Oct 2023 - present

The Social and Emotional Technology Lab researches human computer interaction and VR interfaces

- Research and implement ball throwing mechanics for Meta Quest based multiplayer interaction
- Perform and deploy standalone APK builds using Unity and the Meta Quest Developer Hub
- Identify bugs or opportunities for improvement and contribute modifications using GitHub
- Modify and extend multiplayer scoring system that runs on Photon

Teaching Assistant, Mira Costa High School

Aug 2022 - Jun 2023

The MCHS technology department taught classes and worked on projects for the school district

- Taught students basics of programming and prepared them for the AP computer science tests
- Programmed the prototype digital hall pass system for Mira Costa High School
- Led the virtual reality booth at the MCHS STEM fair

Rental/Repair Specialist, Dive n' Surf

Summer '21, Summer '22

Dive n' Surf provides instructional dive courses and ocean sport rentals

- Inspected, maintained, and repaired scuba equipment
 - Cleaned and filled scuba tanks with compressed air or oxygen enriched air
 - Used spanish language skills to communicate with local and international customers
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Skills

VR Development: Meta Quest builds, VR Controller interactions (i.e. grips and throwables)

Game Design: Collaboration (GitHub), multiplayer and networked interfaces (Photon)

Engines: Unity, Unreal Engine

Programming Languages: C#, Python, Java

Projects

Islands 3 (in progress) - multiplayer virtual reality game under design

Expected 2024

Digital Hall Pass - GSuite integrated QR scanner for Manhattan Beach Unified School District

2023

Islands 2 - Unity based 2D survival game featuring graphical overhaul

2021

Islands 1 - Java text-based survival game to practice interactive narrative

2019

Community Involvement

Member, Santa Cruz Game Design and Art Association

Apr 2023 - Present

Member, Santa Cruz Men's Water Polo Club

Sep 2023 - Present

Member, Santa Cruz Submerged Slugs Dive Club

Sep 2023 - Present