

Christopher Benson

cjb543@protonmail.com | (815) 995-4157 | <https://github.com/cjb543>

EDUCATION

Northern Illinois University – Dekalb, IL

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Enterprise Software Emphasis, Music Minor – GPA 3.66

May 2026

Relevant Coursework: Operating Systems, Compiler Design and Implementation, Network Programming, HLASM

WORK EXPERIENCE

Northern Illinois University – Dekalb, IL

Teaching Assistant

May 2024 – Present

- Selected by faculty to serve as the teaching assistant for a 30-student course in Unix and Network Programming.
- Provided one-on-one mentorship to students on complex topics such as socket programming and system calls.
- Graded and provided feedback on student projects, helping them debug code and understand networking concepts.

PROJECTS

Chess Application – Python

- Developed a cross-platform multi-threaded chess visualization client supporting PGN and FEN formats.
- Integrated Stockfish for advanced position analysis as well as interactive board editing and file uploads.
- Applied strong UI design fundamentals to build a dynamic, responsive, and accessible interface.

Custom Version Control – C++

- Developed a lightweight version-control tool inspired by Git with file tracking and commit history.
- Managed metadata with zlib compression and SHA-1 hashing for content-addressable version tracking.
- Implemented a line-based diff algorithm to track changes between file versions.

Motorsports Web App – JavaScript

- Developed a dynamic website showcasing the NIU Motorsports team accomplishments, leadership, and sponsors.
- Built multiple contact forms with validation and integrated Microsoft Teams API for user authentication.
- Ensured accessibility and responsiveness by implementing and maintaining WCAG AA standards.

CERTIFICATIONS

Amazon Web Services

Cloud Practitioner

Sep. 2025 – Sep. 2027

- Demonstrated a strong foundational knowledge of cloud computing concepts, AWS services, security, and pricing.

American Foundation for the Blind

Digital Accessibility Fundamentals

August 2025

- Completed the AFB Talent Lab Bootcamp, gaining hands-on experience in accessibility and digital inclusion.
- Demonstrated proficiency in applying inclusive design principles to real-world development projects through coursework, mentorships, and assessments.

Clubs: Association for Computer Machinery (ACM) – Vice Chair, Motorsports, Marching Band