Colin Findley

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EDUCATION

Depaul University   Chicago, IL
M.S., Computer Science | GPA: 3.85/4.0   August 2024

University of Chicago   Chicago, IL
B.A. Psychology | GPA: 3.45/4.0
Honors Included: The Dean's List (2013-2018)   June 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

Center of Social and Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Chicago   Chicago, IL
Research Software Engineer   Oct 2017 - Dec 2022
- Created and implemented complex online psychology experiments using JavaScript and HTML/CSS, engaging over 2,000 participants remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic when lockdowns restricted in-person research
- Designed intuitive user interfaces for psychology experiments, such as word clustering tasks, where participant interactions were captured and codified, with some data being analyzed and published as statistically significant findings
- Developed a SQL-based framework to streamline data capture, improving data accessibility for the research team and significantly reducing the need for data wrangling
- Developed the software systems that continue to enable ongoing experiments in the lab, leading to my co-authoring and publishing two research papers on musical cognition in the APA-accredited journal *Psychology of Aesthetics, Creativity, and the Arts*

Silver Hill Hospital   New Canaan, CT
Psychiatric Technician   Sept 2018 - Apr 2020
- Led and facilitated multiple weekly therapy groups, providing structured support and guidance to patients, while intervening in crisis situations to de-escalate conflicts and ensure patient safety
- Worked closely with multidisciplinary care teams to develop and implement individualized treatment plans, ensuring patients received personalized care that supported their recovery and addressed their unique needs

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
See Portfolio Here: colinfindley.github.io/Portfolio-Website/

Game Engine
- Designed and developed a video game engine from scratch using C++, recreating the classic game Space Invaders
- Built comprehensive libraries for math, animation, timing, file systems, and mesh handling
- Implemented Object-Oriented design patterns such as Singleton, Composite, Factory, Command, and Proxy, leading to a more maintainable and efficient codebase
- Improved performance and efficiency by optimizing data structures for improved spatial locality, utilizing SIMD instructions for parallel processing, and enhancing the Windows operating system with custom memory management

Chrome Extension
- Developed a Google Chrome extension using React to manage browser tabs, providing features for bookmarking, rearranging, and closing tabs directly from the extension
- Implemented tab tracking functionality and created an intuitive user interface with React, enhancing user productivity and ensuring seamless interaction
- Utilized Chrome Extension APIs for tab manipulation and state persistence, incorporating state management and local storage techniques to maintain and restore user sessions and preferences

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

Languages & Technologies: Java, C++, C#, R, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, Python
Development Tools & Frameworks: React, Spring Boot, JUnit, Docker
Version Control & Collaboration Tools: Git, GitHub, HelixCore