

Daniel Chelala

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EDUCATION

City University of New York, College of Staten Island

Bachelor of Science, *Computer Science*

Jan 2026

Bachelor of Science, *Biology: Health Science*

Jan 2022

Relevant Coursework:

Cybersecurity Fundamentals, Networking and Security, C++ Programming, Python Programming, Database Systems (SQL), Software Engineering, Web Development, Data Structures, Analysis of Algorithms, Computer Game Programming, Machine Learning & Knowledge Discovery, Artificial Intelligence

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer (Founding Team), **Otopair (Startup)**

Remote (Staten Island, NY) | Nov 2025 – Present

- Contributing to the development of a mobile marketplace application that connects users with verified mechanics, supporting AI-assisted service diagnosis, in-app booking, and payments
- Implemented core user-facing flows in React Native (TypeScript), including onboarding, payment method setup, and rewards and activity views, with validated inputs and smooth UI transitions
- Leveraged Zustand for state management and collaborated using Figma for design workflows, Notion for documentation, and GitHub for version control within a cross-functional team of 9

Research Assistant, **Research Foundation CUNY**

Staten Island, NY | Sept 2025 – Present

- Conducting computational biology research under faculty supervision, programming and evaluating a large language model (LLM) on the CUNY HPC cluster to detect tandem repeats in DNA sequences using PyTorch for model development, Pandas and NumPy for data preprocessing, and scikit-learn for performance evaluation

Computer Science Tutor, **College of Staten Island**

Staten Island, NY | Sept 2025 – Present

- Assisting students in tutoring lab and in classrooms, reinforcing concepts such as C++, Python, Artificial Intelligence, Git, and Computer Architecture
- Providing individualized guidance, helping students solve problems, debug code, and strengthen core programming skills

PROJECTS

Language-Learning App

In Progress

- Full-stack development building on AnkiDroid's open-source codebase, with frontend in Kotlin and XML layouts, backend SQLite database management, and integration of OpenAI's Realtime API (real-time streaming LLM interactions), speech-to-text, and text-to-speech APIs
- A collaborative group project designed to help users practice language skills with an LLM through adaptive learning that adjusts to their proficiency level

UVC Scavenger Game

May 2025

- Developed a 2D puzzle game in Unity/C#, incorporating riddles, sequence challenges, and layered logic puzzles
- Applied strong problem-solving skills to design progressive difficulty levels that maintain player engagement
- Implemented intuitive UI and thematic storytelling for an immersive gameplay experience

Kitty Galore

Apr 2024

- Developed a solo web application in HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to fetch and display random cat images via REST API, with user-specified tags, text, font styles, and image filters for personalized image generation

WORK EXPERIENCE

Receptionist, **Four Fitness Hamilton Park**

Jersey City, NJ | Oct 2023 – July 2025

- Served as the first point of contact, handling member inquiries and promoting memberships with professionalism
- Maintained facility operations, including pool chemical management, towel service, and gym organization

ASSOCIATIONS

Clubs: CSI Computer Science Club, CSI Women in Technology Club

SKILLS

Programming & Markup Languages: C++, C#, Python, Java, Kotlin, R, SQL, Bash, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, TypeScript, XML

Data Science & Machine Learning: PyTorch, NumPy, Pandas, scikit-learn

Methodologies: Agile, SDLC, CI/CD, Security Principles

Technologies: Git Version Control, GitHub, React Native, Zustand, APIs, Linux, Microsoft Office, VMware, VirtualBox

Certificates: uCertify – CompTIA PenTest+ Cert Guide (PT0-002) (Dec 2024)