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) in Python 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)*