Dawit Boku

dsboku26@colby.edu • **LinkedIn** • **Github** • **Personal Site** • **469-515-6223**

EDUCATION

Colby College, Waterville, ME **Graduation Date:** May 2026
Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, Concentration in AI **GPA:** 3.77
Minor in Mathematics and Science, Technology, and Society
Organizations: ColorStack, CodePath, DavisAI Institute, DavisAI Advisory Board, Colby Hackers

SKILLS

Proficient in: Python Javascript HTML CSS React GitHub Actions
Familiar with: Java Node.js Pytorch Visual Studio Flask
Relevant Coursework: Data Structures, Algorithms, Linear Algebra, Discrete Mathematics, Data Analysis and Visualization, Intermediate Web Development (with CodePath), Hands-on Intro to AI with NLP, Computer Organization

WORK EXPERIENCE

Software Developer, *Davis Institute for AI, Colby College, Waterville, ME* September 2023 – Present
- **Design** and **develop** a responsive chatbot interface with React, enabling students and faculty seamless access to 10 Large Language Models hosted in the cloud via REST API integration
- Spearhead the end-to-end development and launch of a **static website** that recommends different AI models to users, leveraging the MiniConf GitHub repository as its foundational architecture
- Customize **front-end elements using JavaScript** and optimize **back-end performance with Flask** to create a seamless user experience
- Partnered with UX/UI designers to design the **user interface**, prioritizing **interactive** and **accessible** design

AI Technology and Policy Intern, *USAID, Washington, D.C.* January 2024 – February 2024
- **Wrote** a white paper on the practical implementation of Responsible AI within a governmental context, that was distributed to organizational heads such as the CIO, CTO, and CITO of USAID
- **Identified** internal communication bottlenecks that slowed down the pace of experimentation and iteration, and **assisted** in the improvement of processes that enabled better coordination between different departments
- As part of a larger initiative to streamline AI adoption, I **Interviewed** several employees on their experiences of using AI tools for their work and reported directly to the Chief IT Officer

Main Instructor, Co-founder, *BuildWithPy, Addis Ababa, ET* March 2021 – September 2021
- Taught engaging weekly online **Python lessons** for Saint Joseph High School students
- Achieved an **8x growth,** expanding the community from **5 initial users** to over **40+ active members**. Improved **course quality** and **user experience** by actively integrating feedback from both students and faculty

PROJECTS

Pathfinding Visualizer | *Javascript, React, Java* GitHub | June 2023 – July 2023
- Engineered an interactive **web application** in **4 weeks** enabling users to dynamically visualize key pathfinding algorithms, including Dijkstra's, and A* Search, navigating mazes
- Deepened expertise in **data structures** and **algorithms** by solving complex pathfinding problems
- Acquired foundational proficiency in **React** and **JavaScript** syntax in a short timeframe demonstrating adaptability, commitment, and self-driven learning to meet project specifications

Gradescope Chrome Extension | **HackMIT** | *Python, Javascript, Django, Cloud Vision API* GitHub | September 2023
- Collaborated in a **3-member team** to engineer a Chrome extension, enhancing Gradescope's user experience by introducing **automated page selection** by implementing innovative solutions
- Spearheaded the development of a proprietary algorithm to map questions to corresponding answer pages accurately, leveraging **Selenium for dynamic web scraping** due to Gradescope's lack of a public API
- An estimated **50%** acceleration in submission speed for Gradescope users through our extension's integration