Dustin J. Ober

Data Scientist & ML Engineer

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SECURITY CLEARANCE: TOP SECRET WITH SCI AND POLY

SUMMARY

Data Scientist specializing in NLP, Machine Learning, and Production ML Systems. 30+ models deployed for defense and intelligence applications. Extensive experience architecting end-to-end AI pipelines, custom NER systems, and secure ML infrastructure. PMP-certified technical leader bridging data science with mission-critical training outcomes. Author of "The Sovereign AI Handbook" series on disconnected AI architectures.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Contract-based roles supporting classified defense and intelligence missions.

ML Engineer / Data Scientist
2024 – Present

Leidos – Chantilly, VA

- Received Letter of Appreciation from customer for leading AI implementation into workflows and processes.
- Designed and deployed custom NER models for specialized intelligence datasets, achieving extraction accuracy exceeding industry benchmarks.
- Trained and deployed 30+ ML models using TensorFlow and DSPy, streamlining data extraction into production-ready insights.
- Built secure FastAPI REST services with JWT authentication and Dockerized applications ensuring 99.9% deployment consistency.
- Lead PMP Instructor for 4+ cohorts; authored PMP 2026 Exam Prep Ebook with high community engagement.

Technical Lead / Data Analyst
2022 – 2024

Peraton & Leidos – Chantilly, VA

- Nominated for Schoolhouse Training Award for 4-week core-skills course matching agency certification standards.
- Directed team of instructional designers using Agile methodologies for course development pipelines.
- Automated reporting pipeline reducing generation time by 97% (from 1 week to 30 minutes).
- Created searchable Section 508/WCAG accessibility database adopted across NCTC.

Instructional Systems Specialist
2019 – 2021

DEA, Tekmasters, Tridea Works

- Led development of Cyber Drug Investigator Course, identifying 290+ critical tasks via Job Task Analysis.
- Created learner-centered curricula using Articulate 360, Captivate, and Camtasia for intelligence environments.
- Established remote learning infrastructure using Adobe Connect and Microsoft Teams.

Instructor / Course Developer
2004 – 2014

United States Air Force

- 15+ years of distinguished service across technical training and leadership roles.
- Maintained technical databases with 1,000+ entries achieving 100% data accuracy.
- Authored 52 technical scenarios for firearms training simulators.

The Sovereign AI Handbook Series

- **Sovereign AI Infrastructure**: Hardware & Architecture for Disconnected Environments
- **The Disconnected Pipeline**: Solving Dependency Management in Secure Facilities
- **Private Knowledge Retrieval**: Architecting Local RAG Systems
- **Verifiable Intelligence**: DSPy, Governance, and Hallucination Control
- **Agentic Architectures in Secure Enclaves**: Multi-Agent Systems for Zero-Egress Environments
- **Beyond "Vibes"**: Engineering Reliable AI Tutors with DSPy
- **The Future of Neuro-Symbolic Tutors**: Hyper-Personalized, Verifiable Learning Paths
- **Scaling LLM Evaluation with DSPy:** From Manual Prompting to Optimized Pipelines

EDUCATION

Graduate Certificate: AI Systems Management   2025

Strayer University

Master of Education: Instructional Design & Technology   2018

Liberty University

BS in Management / Computer Information Systems   2014

Park University

CERTIFICATIONS

- Project Management Professional (PMP) - PMI
- Natural Language Processing Nanodegree - Udacity
- Generative AI Nanodegree - Udacity
- Deep Reinforcement Learning Nanodegree - Udacity
- AI Programming with Python - Udacity
- Generative AI Fundamentals - Databricks
- AWS Cloud Practitioner (Foundational) - AWS
- Statistics for Data Analysis - Udacity

- Deep Learning Nanodegree - Udacity
- Computer Vision Nanodegree - Udacity
- Artificial Intelligence Nanodegree - Udacity
- Intro to Machine Learning (PyTorch) - Udacity
- AI Product Manager - Udacity
- Lakehouse Platform Essentials - Databricks
- Business Analytics Nanodegree - Udacity

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data Science & ML

TensorFlow, PyTorch, DSPy, NLP/NER, Scikit-Learn, Pandas, NumPy, Feature Engineering, A/B Testing

ML Ops & Dev

Python, FastAPI, Docker, Git, MLflow, RESTful APIs, Jupyter, SQL, LangChain, LangGraph

Databases

PostgreSQL, Neo4j, Qdrant, SQLite, Redis, Vector Databases

Leadership

PMP Methodology, Agile/Scrum, Technical Training, ADDIE, Team Leadership

Accessibility

Section 508 Compliance, WCAG 2.1, Government Standards, A11y Testing