Jessa Pearce
1704 Rosetta Dr., Durham, NC

847-924-8465 ~ jlpearce@gmail.com ~ http://jesseract.github.io/

Technical Skills: Ruby, Rails, HTML5, CSS, test-driven development, JavaScript, jQuery, git, Heroku, API integration, and agile development.

Development Experience:

Smashing Boxes, Durham, NC
Backend Apprentice   Aug 2015–Nov 2015

The apprenticeship was a 12-week program designed to create proficiency in TDD, Ruby, and Ruby on Rails, through the practical utilization of web applications.

Smashing Boxes Projects:
   TicTacToe: Build a complete command-line tic-tac-toe application using TDD with rspec. Then rebuild it to make it 4x4.
   • Ruby/Rails, Rspec
   Rails TODO API: Build an API in rails to talk to a small JavaScript TODO App.
   • Rails, Ember, JavaScript
   SSH & Webservers: Introduction to working inside Ubuntu server environments, installing debian packages via apt-get and configuring webserver software.
   • Digital Ocean, NGINX, HTML
   Rails Bookstore: Create a working bookstore app, including user authentication, admin authentication, an index page and the ability to purchase a book using Stripe.
   • Ruby/Rails, TDD (Cucumber/Capybara), APIs, Stripe, PostgreSQL, JavaScript, CSS, Bootstrap

The Iron Yard, Durham, NC
Ruby on Rails Student   Jan 2015–April 2015

The Iron Yard is an intensive 12-week immersive program. The Back End Engineering course focuses on the logic and database needs required to run and scale web applications, combining databases, APIs and user interface frameworks.

Iron Yard Projects:
   ShutterBuddy: For the cohort's final project, I worked with a partner to create an app integrating three APIs in order to allow a user to create a photo album based on location, landmarks, time of day and weather.
   • Rails, CSS3, HTML5, Google Maps Embed API, Google Maps Places API, Flickr API, JSON, JavaScript, jQuery, Heroku
   Google Scholar Screen Scraper: Our first endeavor into pair programming, we built a web app to scrape information from the HTML version of the search results at scholar.google.com and present it to the users in a useful way.
   • Pair programming, Ruby gems, HTML structure
   CSS Reverse Engineering: Given screenshots of web pages, we reproduced the look of each using CSS and HTML.
   • HTML, CSS selectors, pseudo-selectors, styles, and attributes, Codepen.io
   Health Tracker: This Rails application stored information on daily weight, daily steps taken, calories consumed, and exercises performed.
   • MVC architecture, SQL data table design, Rails file conventions, test-driven development.
   Gradebook: We built an application to track public school student grades which allowed parents, teachers and students to see scores in each class.
   • Authentication, REST, sessions

Prior Experience:

Saybrook University, San Francisco, CA
Online Marketing Specialist   *Feb. 2012–July 2014*

• Responsible for managing and administering Saybrook University's institutional social media and press release channels and content creation, coordination, and production in support of Saybrook's online marketing and communications initiatives.
• Managed content creation, production, administration, and maintenance of Saybrook University social media sites, including Google+, Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.
• Managed creation, posting, and publishing of event information on Saybrook-owned media, e.g., website, institutional social media and external web-based distribution channels.
• Created content for and coordinate approval of press releases on events, news announcements, and other topics as assigned.

Gray Area Foundation for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
Lead Journalist for Summer of Smart   July 2011–Oct. 2011

• Conducted social media push for Summer of Smart urban hackathon series, including blog posts, Twitter and video editing.
• Assisted PR team in researching audience and publicizing hackathons around Bay Area.

Sunlight Foundation, Washington, DC
Policy Intern/Consultant   *May 2009–Dec. 2009*

• Collaborated with policy, communications and technical teams to advocate for governmental transparency.
• Conducted online research as needed, including transparency requirements for the House of Representatives and Senate.
• *Created, edited and oversaw wiki page for OpenCongress.org.*

U.S. Navy
Lithographer/Journalist   Sept. 1997–April 2004

• Produced more than 100 news stories for base newspaper and television station.
• Communicated the Navy's message to off-base population using press releases, interviews with base officials and base tours.
• Changed duty stations approximately every two years, which forced me to adapt to disparate teams within the organization and come up to speed quickly in order to be an effective member.

Education:

The Iron Yard, Durham, NC
Rails Engineering   April 2015

American University, Washington, DC
Master of Arts – Political Science: Applied Politics   May 2010

Columbia College of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Bachelor of Arts – Journalism   May 2007