

Liam McKenna

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SUMMARY

Master's student in Computer Science specializing in computer graphics and video game development, with demonstrable proficiency in C++, C#, GLSL, and HLSL. Expertise in designing robust and streamlined software systems, formed through extensive development experience in Unity, Unreal Engine, and self-authored 3D application programming. Eager to gain real-world experience in the design and development of commercial video games and video game engines.

EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.S.), Computer Science <i>University of Florida, Kyoto University</i>	Expected Spring 2026 <i>Gainesville, FL</i>
Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Computer Science <i>University of Florida</i>	Summer 2024 <i>Gainesville, FL</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPA: 3.58/4.00 (Cum Laude)• Minor: Digital Arts and Sciences (Game Development)	

EXPERIENCE

Academic Researcher <i>Kyoto University — Project AirSim</i>	Fall 2025 - Present <i>Kyoto, JP</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Studied and worked within Unreal Engine's C++ source code to develop a fork used for computer vision research• Implemented advanced rendering techniques into Unreal Engine 5 through self-authored HLSL shader development	
Academic Researcher <i>University of Florida SurfLab</i>	Jan 2025 - Summer 2025 <i>Gainesville, FL</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigated experimental approaches to producing global illumination in a real-time OpenGL environment• Attained performant pixel-accurate shadow casting of complex NURBS surfaces with novel use of past research	
Software Development Intern <i>United Wholesale Mortgage</i>	Summer 2023 <i>Pontiac, MI</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Garnered applied experience in the agile development cycle by operating under the scrum framework• Developed an integrated software stability inspector with C# for end-to-end use in proprietary software	

PROJECTS

APGP Multipurpose Custom 3D Rendering Environment <i>C++, OpenGL, GLSL</i>	Fall 2024 - Summer 2025 GitHub
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Created a highly modular real-time 3D application in C++ using the OpenGL graphics API• Implemented an Entity-Component System (ECS), Scene Graph, and support for Physically-Based Rendering (PBR)• Engineered fully dynamic Lua script insertion, asset management, and scene generation at runtime	
PowerLine Original Minecraft Multiplayer Minigame <i>Java</i>	Fall 2025 GitHub Play Game
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Led the full development cycle of a novel multiplayer game mode for Minecraft through custom plugin programming• Achieved publication on the popular and selective Minecraft minigame hosting platform, StickyPiston	
Topposition Procedurally Generated Game Built on Custom 2D Engine <i>C++, SFML</i>	Fall 2023 GitHub Presentation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed a feature-complete strategy game in a proprietary engine boasting a procedurally generated terrain system• Presented a lecture to UF's game development club, DevLUP, on the lessons learned throughout development	
Itch.io Showcase Extended Game Development Portfolio <i>Unity, C#, Batch</i>	Fall 2022 - Present Portfolio
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attained extensive experience working in Unity and C# scripting from the development of several unique projects• Achieved multiple top placements and academic recognition in game jams, hackathons, and class projects	

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: C++, C#, GLSL, HLSL, Lua, Java, Batch

Tools & Frameworks: Unreal Engine, Unity, OpenGL, DirectX, Blender, Maya, Visual Studio

Specialized Knowledge: Graphics Programming, Game Engine Architecture Design, 3D Modeling ([Portfolio](#))