ELIZABETH FERRARO

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

I am currently seeking a position as software engineer. My professional background includes military service, foreign language learning, business ownership, technical writing, and project management. My primary skillset for this position includes the ability to learn new languages and technical skills quickly; the mindset to approach difficult problems with curiosity, resourcefulness, and creativity; and the soft skills required to work well and communicate effectively with a team and/or clients. I am really passionate about building cool things with code, and my goal is to put that passion to work for an excellent team within a fantastic company that I can grow with and add value to for years to come.

SKILL HIGHLIGHTS

Solid working proficiency with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript - Also interested in mastering Python and C#

Customer service and client relationship management	Quickly master new skills & technology
Ability to work independently and as part of a team	Project management experience
Professional written and verbal communications skills	Military experience (National Guard)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BUSINESS OWNER - REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY (2013-2022)

As a business owner in the real estate industry, I managed a variety of responsibilities including client development and relationship management, transaction management and schedule coordination, social media and content marketing, and I built and maintained company websites (primary skill used was HTML). I ensured all branding was consistent across social media, advertising, and websites, and I monitored analytics to determine which of our efforts were achieving a sufficient ROI and which were not. In this role, I have learned how to complete projects strategically with business growth and ROI in mind, and I have learned how to effectively assess results and adapt my approach as needed. I have also learned how to be a self-starter and have built a solid work ethic and the discipline to set goals and consistently take the actions required to achieve them on a set timeline. I am currently seeking to transition from this role to pursue my passion in web and software development.

TECHNICAL WRITER - CYGNET LEADERSHIP SOLUTIONS (2015-2017)

My work as a technical writer consisted of building workshops for clients based on an in-depth needs requirement assessment. Once a list of requirements was developed and agreed upon, I performed deep dive research into the essential topics, gathered resources, and developed a project outline and timeline. Once the project was green lighted, I drafted the workshop materials which typically included a PowerPoint presentation, a textbook, and a workbook. Communication and the business writing process were critical in this role. I learned how to manage projects and client expectations, how to write quickly and professionally, and how to listen actively and ask effective questions.

CRYPTOLOGIC LINGUIST - ARMY NATIONAL GUARD (2009-2013)

I completed an immersive 52-week Persian-Farsi course at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA, where I discovered an aptitude for acquiring foreign languages. I graduated at the top of my class with a 3/3 DLPT score and was selected for the honor of writing and presenting the commencement speech in Farsi. I volunteered in my spare time as a tutor for other students seeking to improve their language proficiency. While I did not have the opportunity to serve on a deployment, my time in the National Guard and in working with foreign language helped me to develop a strong growth mindset and a solid foundation in leadership and team building skills.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Self-taught Javascript Developer (2022-)

I designed a project-based program of learning that has allowed me to learn critical developer skills and tools while building cool things that interest me. While I gave a lot of serious consideration to bootcamps and other types of follow-along courses, I decided to build my own curriculum because I know from my experience with learning a foreign language that I learn best while exploring and "playing" and making mistakes. I found quickly that the same applies to programming, the more I experiment and play, the more things I break, and the more things I learn how to fix and build better next time. I love this aspect of programming, I will never run out of things to "play with" and build and learn!

Certified Associate in Project Management (PMI: 2016-2021)

BA in Political Science: International Relations (Methodist University: 2012-2013)

Graduated with the following honors: 3.9 GPA, President's List, and Summa Cum Laude

Mideast Cryptologic Language Analyst (Goodfellow AFB: 2011)

Cryptologic Linguist Fundamental Skills Course (Goodfellow AFB: 2011)

AA in Persian-Farsi (Defense Language Institute: 2010-2011)

Graduated with the following honors: 3.8 GPA, Commencement Speaker, and DLPT score of 3/3

PERSONAL INTERESTS

I spend a lot of time with my family outdoors. We especially enjoy being on the water or taking family bike rides. In my free time, I play around with various coding projects. My brother is a developer as well and we enjoy bouncing ideas and projects off of each other. I am also a committed hobby-artist and health enthusiast and can often be found either buried in my sketchbook or breaking a sweat at the local gym.