

Marcus Smith | Full Stack Software Engineer

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Software Engineering Skills

Programming Languages: JavaScript, Python, HTML, CSS

Frameworks and Libraries: Node.js/Express, Mongoose, Django, React.js, Bootstrap

Databases: MongoDB, PostgreSQL

Tools/Other: Git, GitHub

Personal Statement

I am an established professional with skills in full-stack web-development, business strategy and management. My professional experiences include working in event-planning, with charities, with investors and most recently in founding a professional skills training business in Sierra Leone. This breadth of experience, both as an employee and a business owner, has exposed me to a wide variety of challenges that I have enjoyed solving.

Following the sale of my business in June 2022 I chose to develop my interest, experience, and ability in developing business systems by enrolling in a full stack software engineering course at General Assembly. I am now looking forward to deploying these skills and leveraging my experience in a technical role.

Other Skills

Project Management: Agile and Scrum project-management methodologies

Leadership: Team building, strategy, budgeting, Board relations, recruitment, performance-management

Relevant Experience

Software Engineering Immersive Fellow, General Assembly

Remote | Dec '22 – Mar '23

Completed 500+ hours of expert-led instruction in JavaScript, Python, MongoDB, Node, React, and hands-on learning of web and mobile application fundamentals using the industry's most in-demand technologies.

Developed projects, including:

- Cancan [GitHub](#) | [Link](#) | Solo Project | 10 Days
A project-management tool similar to Trello built using MongoDB, Express, React, Node.js, Mongoose, HTML, CSS and JavaScript.
- Foodio [GitHub](#) | [Link](#) | Solo Project | 7 Days
A recipes collation and sharing app built using MongoDB, Express, Node.js, Mongoose, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, utilising Materialize framework and deployed to Heroku.
- Portfolio [GitHub](#) | [Link](#) | Solo Project | 7 Days
A single page website built using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, utilising the Bootstrap framework and deployed to Heroku. More time taken to collate content in personal section.
- Blackjack [GitHub](#) | [Link](#) | Solo Project | 5 Days
A browser-based game built with JavaScript, HTML & CSS.

Chief Delivery Officer, LBD Group

Freetown, Sierra Leone | Oct '21 – Jun '22

- Architected the merger of four businesses, including Grow Salone, to create the LBD Group.
- Designed and implemented a centralised business development strategy and system.
- Supported CEO in writing of the 2022 business plan; led cost and sales forecasting for the period.
- Supported CEO in driving professional culture change throughout the organisation.

Founder & Managing Director, Grow Salone

Freetown, Sierra Leone | Feb '19 – Jun '22

- Built Grow Salone from concept to exit at a valuation of £100,000.
- Graduated >70 students from our Professional Skills Programme with an employment rate of 87%.
- Developed commercial relationships with the Government of Sierra Leone (Department for Science, Technology & Innovation), European Union in Sierra Leone, UNICEF, IOM and Coca-Cola.
- Founded a high-quality, technology-led start-up with dramatic educational and personal outcomes in a very low-resource environment – Sierra Leone was 9th poorest country in the world in 2019.

Programme Manager, EducAid Sierra Leone

Freetown, Sierra Leone | Jan '14 – Dec '18

- Designed, implemented, and maintained a Google Sheets-based system to support management and efficiency of school network; the system gathered ~250 pieces of data per student per month in a network with over 3,000 students in 11 schools across 4 districts in Sierra Leone.
- Conducted a thorough HR review of resource-planning, performance, and remuneration packages for 160+ staff. Presented and subsequently implemented findings report that included formalisation of roles, improvement of performance-management procedures and new responsibility-based payroll system.
- Designed, implemented, and maintained donor-management systems.

Other Roles & Consultancies

- Various Roles, TV & Film Production London, UK | Aug '14 – Sep '15
- Associate Analyst, ADCA Investments London, UK | Nov '13 – Aug '15
- Business Analyst, JCSL St. Helier, Jersey | Apr '14 – Aug '14
- Founder & Managing Director, Echo Festival London, UK / Croatia | Dec '11 – Jul '13

Education

Software Engineering Immersive, General Assembly

Remote | Dec '22 – Mar '23

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, University of Sussex (2:1)

Brighton, UK | Oct '08 – Jun '12

Other Interests

I am passionate about travelling, particularly overland where you can get into the nooks and canyons of a country. Last year I flew back to Sierra Leone and drove a friend's Toyota LandCruiser back to the UK. We travelled from Sierra Leone into Guinea, Senegal, Mauritania, Western Sahara, Morocco, France and finally took the train into England.

I love music, being a passionate BBC Radio 6 listener and a (very poor) DJ. I have a fairly eclectic taste that ranges from Dub to Disco; I love going out to listen to live music and I'm excited to be back in London with so much on offer. When I was 20 I founded and ran an electronic music festival on the beaches of Croatia.

Whilst I lived in a tropical paradise with more miles of untouched beaches than most could ever dream of, I truly love the mountains. I have been skiing/snowboarding since I was a tot, but I have more recently taken to hiking - my wife and I hiked around Mt. Rainier in Washington state in March '23 which was absolutely incredible.