

# Nick Speal

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To Mr. Adao and the Udemy engineering team,

I'm a software engineer with a specialization in web development and a background in team leadership and robotics. I've felt firsthand the satisfaction and empowerment that comes with learning new skills to transition into another industry and want to share that opportunity with others. I'd love to join Udemy's effort to increase economic mobility and improve lives through learning.

Rigorously trained in engineering fundamentals at McGill University, I earned a GPA of 3.9 and a reputation for perseverance when solving challenging problems. Building production software at 3D Robotics and fun projects to keep learning, I've most enjoyed frontend work because it is closest to the user. As one of four teammates building out a geospatial data visualization application in ReactJS, I took end-to-end ownership of user needs. Often this meant coming up with creative ways to manipulate 3D data or quickly learning new tools to integrate with existing customer workflows. In my own application, [Discover Live](#), I learned to use websockets and Django-channels on top of Redis to push new concert listings to users as search results came in.

One aspect of my resume that I hope will stand out is the leadership experience I gained in project management roles. After 4 years of focusing on team productivity and cross-functional integration, I've developed empathy and an understanding of the different ways people are motivated and work together. My references will tell you how this has led to team success over and over again. This experience working across teams in software organizations, on top of two years in developer roles, has prepared me to be a leader you can rely on at Udemy.

In light of what I've learned about social inequity in the world around me, I've reoriented my career towards education because I believe it's the strongest mechanism we have to use software to distribute opportunity. Udemy's scale empowers millions of teachers and learners to improve their lives and this is a mission that I want to be a part of. Please email me to schedule a call to discuss further.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nick Speal

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I'm a software engineer with a specialization in web development and a track record of success in robotics and team leadership. I'm committed to improving the access and quality of education for everyone and excited to build tools that help teachers reach more students around the world. I'm also a US Citizen.



**McGill University**  
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering  
Dean's Honour List  
GPA: 3.9/4.0



Javascript, React, Redux, Sass,  
CSS Modules  
Python, Django, AWS, Linux

## Self-directed Post-Graduate Education

2018

- I've spent this year investing in my own learning through a curriculum of online courses, books, projects, and travel related to computer science and social justice

## Software Engineer, 3D Robotics

2017

- Built a complex and evolving web application, enabling visualization & interaction with construction site topography collected by drone
- Owned frontend development and maintenance together with 2-3 other engineers, occasionally picking up backend and drone software projects as needed.
- Shipped an MVP early; achieved market leadership after one year of biweekly updates, measuring user feedback along the way with Amplitude and interviews
- Fun challenges included: PDF import and overlay on a map, real-time 3D Volume estimator and visualizer, Integration with nascent Autodesk APIs for team sync & file management.
- Worked remotely, allowing uninterrupted time for intense focus, while communicating effectively online.

## Engineering Project Manager, 3D Robotics

2015-2016

- Responsible for systems integration and team coordination for Solo: the first mass-produced camera drone to be sold in major retail stores around the world
- Ensured product quality by establishing integration testing processes and investigating complex issues with interdisciplinary teams

## Team Lead and Controls Engineer, McGill Robotics

2011-2014

- Led a team of 98 students to build robots for two international competitions

## Summer Internships, McGill University

2011-2013

- Full-time MATLAB and Python development to support graduate research

## Side Projects

- Find a library of (mostly web-) applications I've built at [speal.ca/projects](http://speal.ca/projects)