Nicholas Ragland

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EXPERIENCE

Lead Software Engineer (Contract)   *Jan 2025 - Present*
Job & Ton LLC | Punch House
- Collaborate with founders, designers, and vendors to architect a custom e-commerce platform, translating concepts into secure, high-performing systems that support brand growth
- Develop responsive, accessible interfaces with custom code, replacing low-code tools to improve performance, flexibility, and long-term sustainability
- Build real-time data flows across sales, inventory, and CRM systems, integrating APIs and Google services to enhance customer engagement
- Contribute to key technical decisions, balancing creativity with maintainability while advising leadership on platform strategy and solutions
- Lead QA, analytics, SEO, and accessibility efforts while securing APIs and platform logic to ensure reliability, security, and scalability

Data Analyst Intern   *May 2023 - May 2024*
Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Webster University
- Built Shiny applications in R using the Tidyverse, and utilized SQL to retrieve and process data
- Developed an interactive heatmap tool that tracked student availability across all departments and times of the day, enhancing event scheduling and enabling departments to host more engaging activities
- Partnered with the Director and Data Analysts to create data-driven solutions that support the Office of Institutional Effectiveness in optimizing scheduling and resource allocation
- Analyzed university program data with Python, Excel, and Power BI, delivering comprehensive insights and reports for stakeholders

Software Developer Intern   *Dec 2022 - May 2024*
Office of Academic Affairs, Webster University
- Modernized over 20 outdated university forms, integrating advanced features and improving UI/UX for greater usability and efficiency
- Worked closely with Directors and Coordinators to align technical solutions with business requirements
- Designed and implemented complex Excel formulas and VBA scripting to streamline processes and automate data-driven projects
- Contributed to maintaining the academic catalog, identifying and resolving website issues to ensure seamless user experience and operational continuity

President, Computer Science Club   *Nov 2021 - May 2024*
Department of Computer and Information Sciences, Webster University
(Awarded Student Organization of the Year 2023)
- Expanded the club by introducing Hacking and Coding teams, significantly boosting participation and growing the online community to over 200 members
- Led club teams in university-hosted competitions, including ICPC and regional hackathons, and guided the Hacking team to a top 7% global finish in the online Hack the Box Cyberpocalypse 2024 CTF
- Organized field trips and hosted guest speakers from companies such as Microsoft, NVIDIA, Hubbell, World Wide Technology, Accenture Federal Services, Boeing, and more
- Documented meeting minutes, maintained the club calendar, and managed new member and officer onboarding, ensuring organizational continuity and member engagement

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, C++, R, SQL, JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML, CSS, GraphQL
Libraries & Frameworks: React, Next.js, Gatsby.js, Tailwind CSS, Styled Components, Pandas, NumPy, Shiny, Plotly, Tidyverse
Tools & Platforms: Git, GitHub, VS Code, Docker, Jupyter (Notebook/Lab), RStudio, Anaconda, Virtual Machines, WSL2, MSYS2, MinGW, Vercel, Firebase, Oracle Apex, Shopify, Klaviyo (CRM), APIs, SEO, Adobe InDesign/Acrobat/Illustrator, Microsoft Excel
Security & Networking: Kali Linux, GNU/Linux, Windows Security Hardening, Bash Scripting, PowerShell, Penetration Testing, Wireshark, Command Line Tools, Capture the Flag (CTF), Cybersecurity Challenges

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

BS, Computer Science - Emphasis in Cybersecurity, Minor in Data Analytics   *May 2024*
Webster University   Webster Groves, MO
          Magna Cum Laude; 3.8 GPA
Certifications: CompTIA Security+ *(Expected October 2025)*

PROJECTS

DTC E-Commerce Site *(Launched 2025)*
Architected and launched a custom full-stack e-commerce site for Punch House, a direct-to-consumer cocktail company, with real-time integrations, automation, and customer workflows

C++ Projects *(500+ GitHub stars)*
Built and maintained a widely referenced open-source GitHub repository showcasing algorithms and advanced data structures, supporting developers and learners globally across the programming community

Event Optimization Tool
R-based Shiny application that maps the availability of individuals across their schedules, enabling organizations to optimize engagement periods

Conscious Chrome Extension *(Hackathon Winner among 400+ participants)*
Chrome extension to analyze tweets and provide insights into content reliability, bias, and potential propaganda, helping users evaluate online narratives more effectively