

Oliver Redding

Web Developer

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Profile

I am a full-stack web developer with a teaching background who loves nothing more than to build awesome things using beautiful code.

I have just graduated from Enspiral Dev Academy, a bootcamp-style course which runs over two months, putting their graduates through over 1000 hours of practical coding experience.

I love how code allows me to pursue three passions at once: being creative, solving problems, and making things for other people to enjoy.

I am now looking for employment as a full-time web developer, and would embrace opportunities to work both on front- and back-end.

Experience

2016 Enspiral Dev Academy --- full-stack web development bootcamp. This included over 1000 hours of practical coding experience and by the end of the course we had experience in building and deploying full stack web applications. Our final project, *Stow*, is a web app that enables peer-to-peer leasing of storage space. You can check it out at <https://stow-hihi.herokuapp.com>

2016 I built a website for a local Wellington artist

2015-2016 Secretary and Acting Vice-President of Wellington Young Professionals

2012-2015 Secondary School Teacher at Scots College, Wellington, and Chairman of Scots Staff Association

2007-2011 Retail Assistant Noel Leeming

Education

2015 Victoria University --- papers in Computer Sciences (A average)

2007-2011 Otago University --- BTheol and Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching (A average)

| Tech Skills | Professional Skills |
|--------------------------|--|
| Javascript / Node.js | Being tech lead |
| React / Redux | Agile / Scrum Methodologies |
| SQL (SQLite, PostgreSQL) | Working with a team / pair programming |
| Express.js | Test-driven dev |
| Tape, Chai, Mocha | Behaviour-driven dev |
| Git / Github | Mentoring / Teaching |
| Java | Communicating |
| CSS / HTML | Empathy |

In my spare time...

I love using code to make things. There is something addictive about making things other people will use or get enjoyment from. While still teaching, I wrote a **program** to assist with marking essays, in **Java**. It was used by other staff in my department. More recently, I contributed to the **open source** community with a **slush generator npm package**. It got over 1000 downloads in three days. Currently, I am making a pro bono **web app** for an online community I am part of. When I'm not writing code, I like watching Game of Thrones, reading fantasy fiction, playing strategy games, and doing other awesome geeky things.

References available on request

My Work Ethic

I consider myself to be a very hard-working person and high achiever. I attained the University of Otago Graduates' Association Prize in Classical Studies for getting the highest overall mark in my year level, some few hundred students. I was also awarded the Patterson Scholarship during my time at Knox College.

I am highly organised and detail-oriented. I am not satisfied with doing the minimum, but instead look for opportunities to extend myself. While teaching full-time, I studied Computer Sciences part-time at Victoria University, I ran the Scots Staff Association, I volunteered as a leader at the Wellington Light Festival, I tutored a student with autism, and I sat on the Wellington Young Professionals Committee as their secretary and later as acting vice-president. My aim is to add value to whatever I become involved with and to constantly push myself to learn and improve. I certainly aspire to do that in my career in web development.

Relevant Skills and Experiences in more Detail

Enspiral Dev Academy: The bootcamp course at Enspiral Dev Academy is a full-on experience. Timewise, it is equivalent to about three-quarters of a degree packed into 9 weeks, although there is a much heavier focus on practical work. Through this course, we learned how to manage projects as a group. We used github to control our work flow, and took an agile approach to projects, using sprints and swapping roles regularly. We learned how to pair program and work to deadlines. We practised both test-driven and behaviour-driven development. While practising the latter, we used a Trello board to manage developer-client expectations. We learned how to build and deploy web applications from scratch with both a back-end and a front-end.

The key technologies and concepts we covered were Javascript, Node.js, React.js, Redux, Express.js, SQL, server-side rendering, client-side rendering, consuming APIs, building APIs, building a database, and more.

The course also had a strong focus on building well-rounded, positive people in the workplace. This included sessions on dealing with difficult situations, increasing well-being, managing stress, embracing workplace culture, and conflict resolution.

Perhaps what is most impressive about this course is how within the space of two months, I went from being a very novice programmer to being a competent and capable full-stack web developer. I loved learning so much at such a fast pace, and I can't wait to learn more.

Our final project, *Stow*, can be viewed at <https://stow-hihi.herokuapp.com>. The app enables peer-to-peer leasing of storage space. It is built in Node.js; the front-end is built with React. It consumes an API which connects with a PostgreSQL database in the back-end. We built the app using an agile and behaviour-driven development approach. We tested our app with Tape and Selenium. While I was not the product owner, I defaulted to being tech lead, as I was the most technically capable of our group members. We presented the app to an audience of around 50 people.

Freelancing: Prior to embarking on the Dev Academy bootcamp, I took on a web project for a local Wellington artist. The website itself was not particularly impressive, as I was still very much a novice. The artist is giving me one of her paintings as payment. The real gain from this experience was in dealing with a client, managing expectations, and maintaining clear communication channels. I learned a lot from this experience. The artist was very happy with the result. She described me as 'very professional'.

Secondary School Teaching: My time as a secondary school teacher was incredibly rewarding. Many of the skills I acquired during my time as a teacher are easily applicable to a career in web development. As a teacher, I learned how to manage groups, how to deal with clients (parents), how to multitask, be organised, and how to work under pressure. Teaching often demanded long hours and weekend and holiday work. I had the opportunity to exercise leadership, through coordination of a curriculum, managing a football team, and chairing the Scots College Staff Association (a membership of over 100 staff).

While working at Scots College, I became the go-to I.T. person in my office, and even developed a program to assist marking of essays, in Java. This was used by at least one other member of staff.

References available on request