# **Peter Argent**

pete@peterargent.com | www.peterargent.com 0414 402 356 | www.linkedin.com/in/peterargent

# Inspiring people to learn digital skills. Social innovator, futuristic strategist, ideator and activator.

An experienced and extremely passionate technologist with many years' experience operating a coding school and running community education programs in partnership with government agencies, universities, NGOs and corporates.

## Education and qualifications

#### **Graduate Certificate Blockchain Enabled Business**

RMIT University | Aug 2021

## Master of Business Administration (Incomplete)

Queensland University of Technology | Sept 2018 - Dec 2018

### **Bachelor of Information Technology**

Griffith University | Aug 2001 - Jul 2005

## **Certificate IV Training and Assessment**

Trison Business College | Jul 2016

# Key skills and technology

- Technology education business management
- Training program design, development and delivery
- Emerging technologies, innovation and design thinking training
- Entrepreneurship and tech startup consulting and advising
- Stakeholder management and team leadership

- Public speaking and digital communication
- Blockchain and web3 strategy
- Smart contract development
- Web application development with Ruby on Rails and JavaScript
- Software deployment and devops
- Social impact program delivery
- Community building

## Career history

#### **Founder – U Cubed** | Jan 2024 – current

Launching a "new" type of education to empower youth with skills for the digital economy and the future of work:

- Course design, development & delivery
- Community building and industry partnerships
- Team building and leadership
- Tokenomics design and implementation
- International leadership collaboration & outreach

#### **Creative economy mentor – ArtsiX** | Mar 2023 – current

ArtsiX is a world-first concept that brings together diverse artists and musicians to co-create while leveraging new technologies.:

- Provide support and mentorship to creatives from the visual arts and music field
- Create materials for non-technical people to understand new technologies and how they enable new business models in the digital economy
- Participate in advocacy for creative industries and professionals

#### **Sessional Lecturer — RMIT University, Melbourne** | Jul 2022 — Nov 2023

RMIT University has been ranked 2nd in the world for its blockchain research and programs.

I teach the following blockchain courses:

- The Blockchain Economy undergrad foundational course for the Blockchain major in the Bachelor of Business
- Blockchain and Cryptoeconomics postgraduate foundational course
- Blockchain Application Projects the capstone project for the Bachelor of Business blockchain major
- ❖ Blockchain and Cryptofinance postgraduate level elective

#### Industry Mentor (Online training facilitator) — RMIT Online | Jul 2021 — current

RMIT Online Future Skills offers facilitator-led, non-accredited courses. The courses I lead are:

- Product Management Fundamentals
- Design Thinking for Innovation
- UX Design
- Developing Blockchain Strategy
- Designing Blockchain Solutions

#### Startup Advisor — Matheka, Colombo, Sri Lanka | Aug 2020 — July 2023

Matheka is a Sri Lanka based edtech startup providing one-on-one maths tutoring to primary school children around the world. I led the team to design and implement a new online classroom platform for use in their tutoring product.

Based in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Tech Genies provides innovation and design thinking training to the startup community, universities, corporates, government agencies and NGOs.

Fidenz Academy - Colombo, Academy Consultant | October 2019 - December 2019

Designed and developed a training program aimed at recent university graduates who aspire to become software developers.

Business Design Institute, CEO/Business Innovation and Design Lead | Feb 2019 — December 2019

Helping small business owners learn about the value of innovation and providing workshops for them to learn about tools and design methods they can use to grow their business.

Working with tech startups to design, develop and deliver their products while developing software engineering talent in Sri Lanka.

ITU (United Nations agency): Innovation, Design Thinking & Future Tech Instructor | Sept 2016 - Ongoing (Ad hoc contract basis)

Designed, developed and delivered several training programs in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Iran, India and the Philippines.

Conducted a range of training programs including:

- Workplace innovation and design thinking
- Coding for the web
- User experience design
- Digital product design and development
- Leveraging emerging technologies for business value (Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, AR/VR)

Project management of training programs. Organising expert speakers and their travel arrangements, team challenges, class activities, materials and collateral.

Web pages for ITU training programs I have delivered:

<u>Digital Skills Capacity Building</u> - Delhi, India, August 2019

<u>Digital Transformation in the Digital Economy</u> - Tehran, Iran, July 2019

<u>DICT and ITU jointly implement Coding Boot Camps for Operators and Trainers</u> - Manila, Philippines

<u>ITU-TRCSL Training on ICTs for promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship</u> - Colombo, Sri Lanka

<u>ITU-FAO-DOA-TRCSL Training on "Innovation & Application Development for E-agriculture"</u> - Kandy, Sri Lanka

Launched a new coding, innovation and tech entrepreneurship school to teach aspiring start up entrepreneurs.

Delivered ongoing free workshops for people to learn coding across Australia, in London, Nottingham, Berlin and Valencia, Spain.

Worked with corporates to deliver innovation workshops and programs. Managed digital product design, development and delivery to clients.

Managed business operations including finances, marketing, staffing and technology.

Worked with **KPMG** to deliver coding workshops and assist with internal hackathons in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Gold Coast.

#### Coder Factory: Director, Head Teacher | Sept 2013 — July 2017

Launched a coding school for aspiring software developers and offered a range of programs from part time developer courses to full time boot camps.

Formed a joint venture with a publicly listed vocational education company and worked with the board to implement strategy and digital transformation.

Managed a team of teachers, marketers, administrators and other support staff.

Acted as Head of School and supervised the design and development of all courses and their delivery.

With funding from the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, I designed, developed and delivered a coding education program for girls at low socio-economic schools across Sydney.

Collaborated with the Sydney of City Community Centres to deliver after-school coding workshops for kids in inner-city areas with Coder Factory student volunteers.

Organised and operated several community hackathons including for University of Sydney Student Accommodation Services.

#### Code Club Australia: Founding director | Sept 2015 — Oct 2016

Initiated code clubs at hundreds of primary schools across Australia. Designed, developed and delivered training for teachers and parents to run the clubs.

Gained funding of AUD\$2M from Telstra Foundation to operate and grow the organisation.

## IBM: Software Consultant (and other roles) | Feb 2003 - June 2012

Designed and implemented innovative software systems for government and enterprise clients including electronic forms and collaboration platforms.

#### References

Asthon De Silva ashton.desilva@rmit.edu.au

Sarah Sinclair sarah.sinclair@rmit.edu.au