

# Rachael Higgins

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Portfolio | <https://not-your-avg-nerd.dev>

[www.linkedin.com/in/rachael-higgins](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rachael-higgins) | [github.com/radkins22](https://github.com/radkins22)

## Summary

Detail-oriented and resourceful web developer with a strong foundation in mathematics and sciences, bringing a unique analytical approach to software development. Experienced in leveraging programming languages, web technologies, and problem-solving skills to create innovative solutions. Passionate about combining technical expertise, creativity, and scientific curiosity to drive community impact and inspire innovation.

## Skills

### Technical Skills:

- Full-Stack Development (HTML, CSS, Tailwind, JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, React, Node.js, Next.js)
- Database Management & Cloud Services (MongoDB, MySQL, Supabase, SQLAlchemy, GCP)
- API Development & Integration, Testing & Debugging
- Version Control (Git, GitHub)
- Responsive Web Design

### Professional Skills:

- Problem-Solving & Critical Thinking
- Technical Troubleshooting
- Process Optimization & Documentation
- Project Management & Collaboration
- Strong Written & Verbal Communication
- Adaptability & Continuous Learning
- Project Management (ClickUp, JIRA)

## Work Experience

### Teaching Team Assistant, Columbia University, Remote

08/26/2025 - Present

- Support 11-week AI Edge cohort, providing technical guidance in Python, APIs, and backend development to justice-impacted adult learners while facilitating live Zoom sessions (Mon-Thurs, 6:15-9:30 PM EST).
- Conduct weekly office hours and grade assignments in Canvas LMS, delivering personalized coding support and constructive feedback to help fellows develop foundational software and AI skills.
- Monitor Slack channels for technical questions, track common issues, and submit weekly performance notes to optimize curriculum delivery and student success.

### Software Engineer, Banyan Labs, Remote

03/18/2025 - Present

- Lead Agile Scrum teams as Project Manager and Lead Developer across multiple AI-powered applications, managing project timelines and deliverables using ClickUp.
- Oversee development of AI-driven platforms including a government grant proposal evaluation system (React, Python, SQLAlchemy, FastAPI, Next.js) and HRPR personal assistant (OpenAI API, RAG, Supabase).
- Leverage AI tools and APIs to accelerate development cycles while guiding junior developers through version control best practices and AI integration techniques.

### Software Engineer, Assessment Pathways, Remote

03/18/2025 - 09/08/2025

- Developed a Google Chrome extension using React, JavaScript, and Node.js to assist teachers in grading assignments with AI-generated feedback.
- Implemented OAuth2 authentication and Google Cloud Platform integration to ensure secure access, scalability, and efficient AI processing.
- Collaborated with educators and developers in an Agile environment to optimize AI models for accurate grading and enhance user experience.

## Education & Certifications

B.S., Biology/Math, University of Nebraska, Kearney, NE	In-progress
Full Stack Developer Certification, Persevere Coding Academy, York, NE	June 06, 2024
A.S., Southeast Community College, Lincoln, NE	March 12, 2012

## Projects

### **HRPR (Production Site)**

[Live Site](#) HRPR (Human-like Responsive Personal Representative) is an AI-powered personal assistant built with OpenAI API, React/Next.js, Tailwind CSS, and Supabase. Implemented RAG for enhanced context-aware responses.

### **Assessment Pathways (Chrome Extension)**

[Live Site](#) Created a platform from the ground up to help educators streamline grading workflows by allowing them to upload student assignments and receive AI-assisted grades and feedback, reducing manual evaluation time.

### **Musician Website**

[Reuben Adkins](#) Built a website for a local guitarist to showcase his work and promote upcoming solo and band gigs — featuring performance highlights, event listings, and media content in a clean, user-friendly design.

### **Philly's Food Truck Website**

[Live Site](#) Built a responsive frontend for a local Arizona-based food truck using React and Tailwind CSS, emphasizing mobile-first design and brand consistency.

### **Rachael Higgins Portfolio**

[Portfolio Site](#) Designed and developed a personal tech portfolio using React to highlight project experience, frontend proficiency, and visual design skills.

*Additional Work History is available upon request*