skylarzhao.com

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EDUCATION

DePaul University, College of Computing and Digital Media, Chicago, IL BS in Information Technology and User Experience Design Concentration in Web Development Graduated June 2023 3.9 GPA, summa cum laude

Relevant Coursework:

Server-Side Web Development

Development of server-side application services and APIs using current code libraries and frameworks (Node.js, Express), as well as utilizing databases.

Advanced Application Development

Development of complex applications through the use of APIs in Java and Kotlin. Learned and used common data structures (hash tables, trees, stacks, queues, networks) and design patterns for API development.

Web Development:

Create interactive, dynamic web sites using common web architecture and object-based database access.

Interactive Web Scripting:

Advanced scripting with JavaScript and the Document-Object Model (DOM) for creating web pages.

User-Centered Web Design:

Learned principles of interactive design and used semantic HTML and CSS to produce standards- and accessibility-compliant web pages.

Prototyping Methods:

Created working low to mid-fidelity prototypes from both physical and digital software that demonstrate a range of design patterns for interactive systems.

EXPERIENCE

DePaul University, Chicago, IL

January 2023 - June 2023

Agile Team Developer

- Worked with Taste of Lincoln Chicago, entrusted by DePaul University, to establish a productive 6-month partnership.
- Directed a cross-functional team in applying Scrum and Agile methodologies to develop and deliver an appealing and user-friendly website using WordPress.
- Emphasized mobile accessibility to optimize UI/UX, resulting in an engaging online experience for diverse users.
- Successfully collaborated with team members to achieve objectives and deliver desired outcomes.

Renaissance Living Room, Chicago, IL

June 2021 - June 2022

Recovery Support Specialist

- Create an accepting, welcoming environment for guests experiencing mental health crises.
- Helped guests to stabilize, tap into coping skills, build resilience and prevent future psychiatric hospitalizations with a philosophy of harm reduction.

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

June 2018 - August 2018

Learning & Public Engagement Intern

- Supported festivals, gallery tours, and workshops, serving thousands of local and international visitors.
- Engaged with museum professionals and went behind the scenes to plan and host free, public creative programs for teenagers.