Toby Bessant - Curriculum Vitae

Date of Birth	13/04/1998
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Profile

I am a critical thinker who is always up for learning something new, to better myself every day. My experience has taught me that openly tackling new problems and challenges is the best way to do this; pushing myself out of my comfort zone and giving 100%. Throughout my degree I have combined my studies with other commitments to show myself to be conscientious, deadline-driven, and passionate about the industry. To kick-start my career I am looking for a graduate, full-stack developer position.

Professional Experience

2018–2019 — **A2Z Cloud — Business Applications Developer.**
Placement year taken as part of my degree. In my role I would be configuring, automating, and integrating various Zoho business applications. Initially I was developing using Zoho's Javascript-based proprietary language, *Deluge*. During the last few months of my placement I was developing data-mapping middlewares using NodeJS, to request data from client systems and map it to a format that their Zoho system could receive. Other responsibilities included being on-site with clients doing requirements gathering sessions, in addition to demonstrating my development progress to them over weekly online meetings.

2015–2016 — **The Regal Stowmarket — Customer Assisstant.**
Part-time job during college. Responsibilities included selling box office tickets, answering calls, working behind the bar, and helping customers with any issues they may have. Efficient communication was essential due to the fact that there would only be 3 staff members running the cinema at any one time. Being part of a small team meant that I was involved in marketing ideas and am proud to say that their growth led to plans of expansion after my departure.

Education

2016–2020 — **Computing & Games Development BSc (Hons), University of Plymouth.**
Predicted to graduate with first-class honours

2014–2016 — **A-Levels, Suffolk One Sixth-form College.**
Computing: D, Sociology: B, Psychology: D, Ancient History AS: D

2009–2014 — **GCSE's, Stradbroke High School.**

English: B	Core Science: B	ICT: Pass
Maths: B	Additional Science: B	History: A
Religious Studies: A*	Business Studies: B	Graphics: C

Skills Profile

As a result of my university degree I have experience developing in a wide range of languages, environments and disciplines. The first two years of my degree were centred around building a foundation for my programming skills, using C# and Java to demonstrate SOLID principles and implement design patterns to solve problems. As I have matured as a developer my primary interest has shifted towards full-stack web development. In my own time I started to teach myself about web development, and carried these skills into my final year at university. Since then, I have experience developing in JavaScript and TypeScript to produce APIs & persistence layers, communicating to both MongoDB and relational databases. My front-end development experience spans the use of VueJS and Angular8, for desktop web applications and native mobile applications (including a development pipeline using Ionic and Cordova). I have experience using Git in both individual and team settings, performing and receiving pull-requests and code reviews with my colleagues.

Between my second and third years of university, I was able to use the skills I had learnt in an industry environment - automating and integrating business web-applications for clients. This experience was valuable in helping me understand the wider impact that software has on businesses, in addition to putting my programming and system design skills into practice. I was given a high level of responsibility, directly demonstrating my solutions to clients over online meetings on a weekly basis. My placement gave me skills in programming and debugging in a web environment, in addition to working with APIs, databases, and building integration middleware. This middleware was often hosted on AWS which I would help configure. I would also be on the client support portal, emailing and calling clients to assist them with any problems they were experiencing. On a personal level, my placement year improved my confidence which in turn has helped with my ability to approach new challenges.

In addition to the skills outlined above, I have experience using C# to develop experience-based projects in Unity3D - allowing me to utilise my programming knowledge to make games, and VR experiences. During my final year of university I used C++ and OpenGL to build various graphics rendering applications; a model-loader to parse and render the data for 3D model files, and an application to procedurally generate & render virtual terrains using noise functions.

Interests

Outside of software development I have a keen interest in reading fiction books, particularly of the crime-fiction genre. I enjoy it because it provides a way for me to be analytical and test my problem solving abilities in an atypical way. In addition, I enjoy learning about ancient history - particularly Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece, as these eras of human history are responsible for many of our traditions today. In my spare time I play guitar, which feeds into an active interest in music - something which has had a large influence on my life.

References

References available on request.