# Tariq Zaitoun

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## EDUCATION

**Toronto Metropolitan University**　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Toronto, ON
*Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.): Software Engineering*　　　　　　　　*Sep. 2020 – May 2024*
- Dean's List 2023 & 2024 with a GPA: 3.70
- Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning and Intelligent Systems, Software Testing and Quality Assurance, Distributed and Cloud Computing, Software Design Architecture, Software Project Management, Database Systems, Advanced Algorithms

## EXPERIENCE

**Software Engineering Fellow**　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Jul. 2024 – Present
*Headstarter AI*
- Built 5+ AI apps and APIs using NextJS, OpenAI, Pinecone, StripeAPI with 98% accuracy as seen by 1000 users
- Developed projects from design to deployment, leading 4+ engineering fellows using MVC design patterns
- Coached by Amazon, Bloomberg, and Capital One engineers on Agile, CI/CD, Git, and microservice patterns

**Hackathon Winner — Spend Ruby Financial Platform**　　　　　　　　　　　　　Aug. 2024
*Headstarter AI Hackathon*
- Won a 24-hour hackathon hosted by Headstarter AI for developing an AI-powered system to process and categorize consumer complaints across various formats—voice, text, images, and video
- Implemented Whisper for voice transcription, OpenAI for text and image classification, and Google Cloud Video Intelligence for video analysis, ensuring efficient multimodal data processing
- Utilized Pinecone to store and query complaint data, facilitating fast and accurate retrieval of insights for comprehensive analysis
- Deployed the entire system on Vercel with Serverless PostgreSQL for structured data management

## PROJECTS

**AI Flashcards** | *Next.js, React.js, Firebase, OpenAI, Vercel, MaterialUI*　　　　　　　Aug. 2024
- Developed a flashcard SaaS platform using Next.js, Firebase, and OpenAI, allowing users to create or generate flashcards with AI
- Integrated Stripe for payment processing and subscription management, offering premium features like unlimited flashcards and access to public sets
- Implemented user authentication with Clerk, ensuring secure access for users across devices

**AI Customer Support Chatbot** | *Next.js, React.js, Firebase, OpenAI, Pinecone, LangChain, Vercel*　Aug. 2024
- Developed an AI-powered customer support chatbot using Next.js, Firebase, OpenAI, and Pinecone, enabling dynamic, real-time responses based on a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) knowledge base
- Implemented multi-language support and user authentication for a more user-friendly experience
- Used puppeteer to extract text from URLs, enabling the chatbot to retrieve information from various websites

**AI Pantry Tracker** | *Next.js, React.js, Material UI, Firebase, Vercel, OpenAI*　　　　　　Jul. 2024
- Developed a pantry management web application using Next.js and Firebase, integrating AI to help users efficiently manage their pantry items
- Enabled users to upload or capture images of food items with their phone or computer cameras, utilizing OpenAI's image classification to identify and add items to the pantry
- Used OpenAI for recipe suggestions based on available pantry items, providing users with personalized meal options

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages**: TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, Python, HTML/CSS, SQL
**Frameworks**: Next.js, React.js, Express.js, Spring Boot, LangChain, MaterialUI
**Technologies**: Git, Docker, Kubernetes, MongoDB, Pinecone, PostgreSQL, Google Cloud, Azure Cloud, Vercel, OpenAI, StripeAPI, Puppeteer