

# WHITNEY MINSON

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[PORTFOLIO](#)

[GITHUB](#)

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## SKILLS

Javascript | React / Redux | HTML / CSS | Python | Flask | Express | Node.js | Git | SQL / SQLAlchemy / Sequelize

## PROJECTS

**MIDNIGHT OIL** (JavaScript / React | Python / Flask | SQLAlchemy)

[live](#) | [github](#)

*Midnight Oil is a Brainscape/Anki clone for making flashcards and studying them.*

- Implemented the VoseAlias.py package to utilize A.J. Walker's Alias Method algorithm, which optimized weighted random selection to grab cards for the study feature at  $O(1)$  time complexity, after setting up a probability table once at  $O(n)$  time.
- Designed React / Redux slices of global state to handle ORM fetches for simultaneous singular and multiple SQL instances of the deck and cards data, ensuring app dynamically updates more smoothly.
- Composed a React form with components and CSS to not appear as a separate form but update the database tables dynamically when cards were selected and edited on a single page to feel more natural to the user.
- Improved user experience by diverging from Brainscape's layout, added consistent site-wide navigation on the top of the pages and placing user and deck header information on another horizontal bar instead of side columns that take up space of the main content, making the app more intuitive and easy to navigate.

**PETSY** (JavaScript / React | Python / Flask | SQLAlchemy)

[live](#) | [github](#)

*Petsy, a full-stack clone of Etsy, is an online marketplace where people sell, buy, and collect unique pet items.*

- Constructed a function to check the visible height vs the scroll height of a review's DOM element to crop overflow text at 3 lines and allow it to be expanded dynamically to keep the page from looking overcrowded.
- Collaborated with a group of three engineers using a Kanban board to ensure adherence to *Scrum* best practices and build project MVPs within a week's time while preventing Git merge conflicts.

**CRYPT SEEKER** (JavaScript / React | Express | Sequelize)

[live](#) | [github](#)

*Crypt Seeker is a clone of HipCamp for those interested in booking stays at supernatural places.*

- Constructed an intricate create/edit functionality for places host users have listed, adding options to add custom area features, amenities, and essentials with chosen icons so listings can be more customizable and detailed and lead to less miscommunications when regular users book and eventually stay at the hosts' places.
- Simplified SQL table schema so both regular users and host users have the same user authentication, reducing server load.
- Integrated Moment.js API to handle conflicting scheduling dates, reducing the amount of time the app needs to calculate whether a user can book a range of dates for a location.

**GOOD GAME GUIDES** (JavaScript / Pug | Express | Sequelize)

[live](#) | [github](#)

*Crypt Seeker is a clone of HipCamp for those interested in booking stays at supernatural places.*

- Collaborated with two other engineers utilizing Githubs project and wiki boards to ensure accurate delegation of tasks and to meet quick turnaround times.
- Created a multitude of helper functions for all queries relating to the shelves functionality to appear as if the constant and custom shelves function the same, although their algorithms differ in the code, which, not only improving user experience, but also made working on individual tasks cohesive and quick.
- Designed a creative and animated 404/Not found page for when users try to travel to a page not on the application of a self-made vector illustration of a GameBoy Advance with pulsing light from the screen and a nostalgic "Continue?" game message that captivates the target audience's attention and directs them back to using the application.

## EXPERIENCE

**Freelance Graphic Designer**

*Self-employed*

2017 - 2021

- Designed Research Panels, portable displays for showcase, in collaboration with Professor Sam Moore and Lydia Harris, for presentation at Yeats Library at IT Sligo, Ireland, displayed August - December 2017
- Designed more Research Panels, in collaboration with anthropologist and historian, Lydia Harris, for presentation at James E. Walker Library at Middle Tennessee State University, displayed March 20 - April 7, 2018.
- Created logos, album art, posters for a variety of clients using Adobe Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, traditional media, etc.

## Graphic Designer

*Middle Tennessee State University History Department*

2016 - 2019

- Designed museum panels of local flora, history, a large map of the surrounding area, and more graphics for Old Stone Fort Archeological Park in Manchester, TN.
- Focused on the user experience by considering how close up will visitors be and that it has to appeal to children as well as older guardians.
- Increased turnaround time of designs compared to their previous designer and provided quick maintenance and requests to satisfy board members changes and suggestions.

## Printmaking Class/Studio Technician

*Middle Tennessee State University Fine Arts Department*

2016 - 2018

- Supervised and assisted in collegiate classes, led projects and workshops to train students and the local community on modern printmaking techniques.
- Collaborated with faculty to institute facility improvements and performed routine maintenance tasks on presses and chemical processes on a daily, weekly and monthly basis.

## EDUCATION

**Fullstack Web Development** - App Academy | 2022

**Bachelors of Fine Arts** - Middle Tennessee State University | 2018