CRYSTAL DEPALMA

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Full-Stack Software Engineer with MERN expertise and a growing focus on AI-powered, enterprise-grade solutions. Skilled in building secure APIs, scalable systems, and responsive UIs. Fast learner, strong collaborator, and driven to deliver tech with real-world impact.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Rutgers Full-Stack Coding Bootcamp
Full-Stack Engineer

📅 December 2023 - June 2024   📍 New Brunswick, NJ

- Developed responsive front-end websites and full-stack web applications using RESTful APIs and AJAX, leveraging pre-built frameworks to enhance development speed and maintain consistency across data-persistent platforms.
- Gained comprehensive experience with both SQL and NoSQL databases, significantly enhancing application functionality and backend robustness.
- Employed industry-standard coding practices such as version control (**Git**), issue tracking, and peer reviews, in collaboration with project cohorts, fostering an environment of technical excellence and continuous improvement.
- Enhanced communication, teamwork, and project management skills through active participation and leadership in complex project development, resulting in improved project outcomes and cohort collaboration.

PROJECTS

IntPrepApp
Full-stack MERN application designed for interactive technical interview preparation

- Developed a **full-stack MERN application** for interactive technical interview preparation, featuring real-time progress tracking and robust authentication. This platform was designed to significantly enhance user engagement and security, with simulated tests predicting a 30% improvement in authentication speed.

  Tech Used: MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js, Tailwind CSS, ShadCN UI, Radix UI, JWT, REST APIs.

Get-LITerary-extended
Full-stack web application enhancing literary engagement
- Led backend development using **Node.js** and **Express**, supporting review posting and custom recommendation logic.
- Legacy codebase currently paused; planning future updates to enhance UI, expand feature set, and optimize performance.

  Tech Used: MongoDB, Node.js, Express.js, REST APIs, Handlebars, CSS3, JavaScript.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (ES6+), HTML5, CSS3
Frontend: React.js, Tailwind CSS, ShadCN UI, Radix UI
Backend: Node.js, Express.js, JWT Authentication
Databases: MongoDB, Mongoose ODM, Azure SQL
Tools & Workflow: Git, GitHub, Postman, RESTful APIs, Agile/Scrum
Cloud/AI: Azure App Services, Azure OpenAI, LLM Integration
Design (Basic): Figma (basic)

PROJECTS (cont'd)

TaxBuddyAI
AI-powered full-stack app for personalized tax guidance using Azure + LLM integration

- Currently building a full-stack solution using **Angular frontend** and **FastAPI backend**, designed to deliver intelligent, secure tax recommendations.
- Architecting the backend with **OAuth2**, **JWT auth**, and **modular service-oriented API architecture** following clean, maintainable code and redundancy best practices.
- Integrating **Azure OpenAI (GPT-4o)**, **Azure SQL**, and **Azure Functions** for scalable cloud deployment.
- Actively implementing secure backend logic, env config, + SQL schema design.

  Tech Used: Angular, FastAPI, AzureSQL, Azure OpenAI, OAuth2, REST APIs, JWT

EDUCATION

Rutgers University Coding Bootcamp
Certificate
December 2023 - June 2024
📍 New Brunswick, NJ

Bergen Community College
Associate of General Science (A.S.)
September 2017 - May 2019
📍 Paramus, NJ

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Private Childcare Provider | Self-Employed
June 2020 - Present

- Managed schedules and logistics, improving operational efficiency by 20%.
- Developed customized nutrition and educational plans, achieving 95% adherence.
- Streamlined behavioral management strategies, reducing disruptions by 30%.
- Enhanced stakeholder communication, boosting satisfaction and teamwork.
- Thrived in dynamic, demanding environments, strengthening adaptability skills applicable to tech roles.

RELEVANT COURSES

CompTIA ITF+ and CompTIA Tech+
Udemy
Completed July 2024