James R. Harris

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I'm a **designer and front-end developer** who loves making complex topics easy to understand. I'm good at giving and taking feedback and using it to build a better product. Please see my portfolio for examples of my work.

Skills

HTML 5, CSS, SCSS	UX & UI design	Gulp	Communication
JavaScript	RESTful API design	git	Listening
React, Ruby on Rails	Agile methodology	npm	Empathy

Experience

Web Developer for H+K International • Aug 2017–Oct 2019

As the front-end specialist on this small team, I mocked up designs for new web pages, worked with stakeholders to get buy-in, and coded the pages to be performant, accessible, and maintainable.

- Redesigned company website in accordance with new corporate branding
- Designed responsive email templates, helping spur equipment purchases from over 10,000 McDonald's stores across the US and Canada
- Used visual design and animation to improve clarity of conditionally branching surveys so McDonald's franchisees worldwide could more easily order the equipment they needed
- Improved speed, security, and transparency of our development process by volunteering as Jira lead and spearheading the adoption of a team password vault
- Created an augmented reality HoloLens app prototype to promote sales

Graphic and Web Design for My Father's World • 2014–2016

As the sole front-end developer at this small business, I heavily customized MFWbooks.com, an enterprise-grade e-commerce site handling $5.6m per year, to meet MFW's business goals.

- Designed the pages explaining their product; wrote and maintained their HTML, CSS, and JavaScript coding
- Used jQuery to smooth and accelerate the purchasing process by improving add-to-cart and checkout systems
- Designed and implemented email announcements (and their associated landing pages) for distribution to 67,000 customers
- Automated routine work with Grunt, Gulp, and AutoHotkey

Senior Airman, U.S. Air Force, 2006–2010 *(Top Secret security clearance)*

Education

Viking Code School • Oct 2016–Feb 2017

Highly selective, intensive coding bootcamp. Students learn an Agile approach to software engineering by pair programming remotely. Daily Scrum meetings and code review.

Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design • 2010–2013

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Communications Design, cum laude. Focused on internalizing the design process through rapid iteration and critiques. Included frequent work solving clients' communications problems using visual design.

Projects

Degree Planner • February–April 2017, December 2019–present

Led a team of three developers to create a site automating degree management at Dallas International University. Tracking students' academic plans with our database-backed app rather than Word and Excel will save hundreds of man-hours per year.

- Learned the structure of a degree from the head of the World Arts Program and, based on that information, created UI mockups and an SQL database schema
- Assembled a team of three and led development using Agile methodology, with regular Scrum meetings, code review, and feedback from the customer
- Wrote large portions of the AngularJS front-end and Ruby on Rails back-end

The Family Learning Cycle • April–August 2015

My Father's World struggled with communicating how their curriculum worked, so I **researched, designed, and built an interactive infographic** explaining it. 97% of surveyed customers indicated the infographic helped them understand the curriculum.

The Periodic Table of Storytelling • January 2014

Created an infographic introduction to TVTropes.org (a storytelling-analysis wiki) which received **over 2 million views.**

- Negotiated a merchandising deal with TVTropes' leadership; donated a portion of profits to supporting TVTropes' server costs
- Featured on Gizmodo, Fast Company, Huffington Post, AV Club, Boing Boing, and Design Taxi, was translated into Italian, and was included in the book *Miller's Compendium of Timeless Tools for the Modern Writer.*

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