Finn Thompson

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I am a technical writer and programmer with a passion for taking a holistic approach to documentation and software. I strive to create useful, usable content and tools designed with all stakeholders' requirements in mind.

Experience

Programmer Writer I, II - Amazon Web Services
Seattle, WA
Oct. 2019 - present

- Creates user guides, API documentation, code samples, and UI text for a developer audience
- Integrates customer feedback and metrics to understand where to improve documentation
- Coordinates with software development teams to ensure technical accuracy of documentation
- Reviews priorities with stakeholders monthly to ensure we deliver the right results
- Developed a Python application that analyzes images from AWS documentation to ensure image text is compliant with legal requirements, saving approximately 3,000 writer hours across the organization
- Designs, develops, and shares tools, typically in Python, that help writers automate tasks and troubleshoot build failures
- Reads software source code to understand features and internal processes
- Participates in the Writer Tools team to share tools and provide feedback on others' ideas, tools, and code
- Leads AWS IoT Greengrass documentation and plans sprints for a team of two writers

Research Intern - Scripps Translational Science Institute
La Jolla, CA
May 2014 - June 2014

- Developed a Java GUI application to save researchers time identifying gene relationships
- Designed a term frequency–inverse document frequency algorithm to rank results

Education

University of Washington
Seattle, WA
Sept. 2014 - June 2018

B.S. in Human Centered Design and Engineering - GPA: 3.65 overall, 3.8 in major

Skills

Programming:	Python, Java, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Regex; exposure to XSLT, React.js, Node.js, C/C++, Unit testing (Jest)
Technologies:	Git, AWS, IoT, XML, Markdown, VSCode, IntelliJ, Windows, Linux, Excel, Figma, Chrome Extensions
Holistic skills:	Technical writing, UX design, usability research, Agile, teamwork, communication, leadership
Online activity:	GitHub (15+ repositories), Stack Overflow (27k+ reputation)

Projects

Smart Prescription Management Device, Team Capstone (see on GitHub)
Python, UI/UX, Research

- Developed a component framework in Python and C to control the device and its touchscreen UI
- Designed, developed, and assembled Arduino and Raspberry Pi prototypes
- Led a usability research study to evaluate the first iteration of the prototype

Various JavaScript Libraries, Published with Documentation
JavaScript, Tech Writing

- FormPersistence.js - persist form data across page refreshes (featured in JavaScript Weekly)
- Gamepads.js - add enhanced HTML5 gamepad support including button events and icons
- Pseudo:styler - toggle CSS pseudo class styles on elements (co-developer)

Netflix Controller Chrome Extension (see on GitHub)
JavaScript, UI/UX

- Chrome extension providing an intuitive interface for controlling Netflix with a gamepad

UW Course Seat Claimer
Java, UI/UX

- Java GUI application that registers for classes when open seat email notifications are received