

RICHARD MIDDLETON

Senior Software Engineer

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SUMMARY

Senior software engineer with approximately 11 years of experience building and maintaining production software across backend, frontend, data, and delivery systems. Strongest in Python, Django, PostgreSQL, APIs, and React or Vue. Experienced in greenfield development, legacy modernization, authentication and third-party integrations, production troubleshooting, CI/CD, and mentoring. Known for taking ambiguous problems from discovery through deployment while communicating risks and tradeoffs clearly.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend: Python, Django, Django REST Framework, FastAPI, REST, GraphQL, Celery, Redis, Node.js

Frontend: React, Vue, Next.js, Angular, TypeScript, JavaScript, React Native, HTML, CSS/SCSS

Data: PostgreSQL, MongoDB, AWS RDS, data modeling, batch processing

Cloud & Delivery: AWS, Azure, Docker, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, CircleCI, GitLab CI/CD, Datadog, Dynatrace

Integrations & Tools: OAuth, Keycloak, Active Directory, LTI 1.3, Git, automated testing, OpenAI and Anthropic APIs

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer (Contract) | Aprio

Apr 2026 – Aug 2026

Remote

- Built a greenfield asset-management application using Python, Django REST Framework, PostgreSQL, React, and Azure.
- Owned backend architecture, APIs, data modeling, frontend workflows, and implementation for business asset, depreciation, and tax-treatment requirements.
- Used AI-assisted development tools to accelerate implementation while retaining responsibility for architecture, review, and validation.

Software Engineer (Contract) | Western Governors University

Apr 2025 – Apr 2026

Remote

- Delivered an LTI 1.3 integration across Open edX, Python, and Django to support external learning partners.
- Built an Angular onboarding flow that consolidated four user journeys into one instrumented experience and improved analytics coverage.
- Implemented WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility improvements for a platform serving more than 3,500 students.
- Diagnosed production issues using Dynatrace, application logs, and targeted code changes.

Senior Software Engineer | OpenVault LLC

Feb 2023 – Dec 2024

Remote

- Led a backwards-compatible authentication migration using Python, Django, Keycloak, OAuth, and Active Directory to meet an enterprise client's requirements.
- Reduced Jenkins build times by approximately 73%, from 60–75 minutes to 12–15 minutes, by restructuring pipelines and AWS EC2 build infrastructure.
- Built a geolocation pipeline that processed more than 100,000 records per month using validation, caching, provider fallbacks, retries, and monitoring.
- Migrated a monolithic repository from SVN to Git/GitLab and rebuilt a React administration interface used by client operators.
- Reviewed code, mentored teammates, troubleshooted production issues, and participated in technical interviews.

Senior Software Engineer | The Muse

Jan 2020 – Feb 2023

Remote

- Designed and built an internal React A/B testing system that replaced LaunchDarkly and removed an approximately \$50,000 monthly vendor expense.
- Built a configurable quiz engine used in an experiment that increased conversion by approximately 32%.
- Extended Python and Django systems with GraphQL and service integrations; helped teammates understand resolver patterns during a broader GraphQL migration.
- Built Python-based SEO monitoring to sample job listings through Google Search Console and identify indexing problems for targeted investigation.
- Improved job-search page performance by approximately 8% through Next.js changes and contributed to customer onboarding and entitlement workflows.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Backend Developer | Lightning Kite / Klyp Nov 2018 – Feb 2019

Logan, Utah

- Built and maintained backend services for client applications in a fast-paced agency environment.

Software Developer | Utah Airways Apr 2018 – Oct 2018

Ogden, Utah

- Built payment-processing and fraud-detection functionality for high-risk lending workflows.
- Implemented a cash-payment workflow for cross-border operations in Mexico.

Software Developer | Rent Dynamics May 2016 – Dec 2017

Logan, Utah

- Identified unsafe storage of more than 100,000 customer records containing personally identifiable information and implemented automated encryption.
- Migrated more than 30 legacy C# API endpoints to Python and Django and introduced CI/CD deployment practices.
- Converted a manual credit-reporting process into a MongoDB batch pipeline.
- Built an email-targeting system associated with an approximately 16% improvement in resident-to-lease conversion, based on product reporting.

Assistant Web Developer | Utah State University Research Foundation Jan 2013 – May 2016

Logan, Utah

- Maintained and optimized a 9 TB PostgreSQL climate database refreshed every 25 minutes for agricultural reporting.
- Worked with researchers and the Utah State Climatologist to translate domain needs into APIs and application features.
- Helped build and release a Cordova mobile application providing weather and pest alerts to orchard owners.
- Modernized a legacy PHP application from PHP 4 to PHP 7, resolving dependency and plugin compatibility issues.

Software Development Intern | DigiCert Jun 2014 – Aug 2014

Lehi, Utah

- Developed and maintained PHP functionality for digital-certificate validation, including wildcard-certificate handling related to Mozilla requirements.

SELECTED PROJECT

Ventur – Solo Creator Feb 2019 – Jan 2020

- Designed, built, and released an event-discovery mobile application for iOS and Android, owning product design, development, deployment, and initial marketing.

EDUCATION & LANGUAGES

Computer Science Studies, Utah State University 2013 – 2016

Additional undergraduate coursework, Southern Utah University

Languages: English (Native); Spanish (Proficient)

EARLIER EXPERIENCE

NASA Ames Research Center – Fluid Dynamics Laboratory Intern, Jun 2010 – Aug 2010 | efixnow.com – Computer Technician, Summer 2011