

Paul Phan

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Newsela

Senior Software Engineer, Technical Lead

New York (Remote)

March 2022 – Present

- Led the development and rebuilding of student engagement, activity completion, and grading experiences, resulting in a **20%** increase in page performance, a **4%** increase in teacher assessment distribution, and a **7%** increase in the number of write prompts graded, as well as improved accessibility for all users.
- Mentored and trained junior engineers, fostering a culture of continuous learning and skill development within the team.
- Facilitated cross-functional collaboration among product management, design, and QA teams, streamlining project delivery and enhancing overall business outcomes.
- Served as a key liaison between stakeholders and engineering teams, translating business needs into technical requirements and driving effective solution development.
- Shaped technical strategy and roadmaps by identifying emerging technologies, tools, and methodologies that could enhance team capabilities and product offerings.
- Championed agile development methodologies, leading stand-ups, planning sessions, and retrospectives to optimize team productivity and project outcomes.

Drexel University

Adjunct Professor

Philadelphia

January 2017 – Present

- Designed and delivered a comprehensive computing curriculum covering foundational computer programming, server-side/client-side programming, UX/Web Design, and mobile applications development.
- Served as a mentor and advisor to students, providing guidance on career development and connecting them with relevant resources and opportunities.

Happy Cog

Full Stack Engineer, Technical Lead

New York (Remote)

March 2015 – February 2022

- Served as Technical Lead on **30+** full-stack web applications and websites, providing technical guidance to team members and rapidly learning and adapting to new technologies.
- Navigated complex challenges and provided architectural solutions, such as improving application speed and performance, integrating CRM, ERP, and POS systems, building and maintaining custom APIs, and helping clients meet WCAG 2.1 Standards.
- Mentored team members in specific technologies, including JavaScript, Node, React, Vue, Next.js, GraphQL, REST API, TypeScript, PHP, Laravel, CraftCMS, WordPress, AWS, WCAG, and Docker.
- Built strong relationships with clients, effectively translating their requirements into application designs and system requirements, while managing expectations and ensuring satisfaction in a technical leadership role. As a result, **84%** of clients stayed on after the project to continue retainer work, demonstrating a high level of trust and satisfaction with the services provided.
- Fostered a collaborative environment with engineers, designers, and marketing teams to solve problems, transfer knowledge, and develop overall product architecture that met client needs and project timelines.
- Demonstrated leadership in sprint planning, understanding the effort, risk, and priority of remaining work committed for each release.
- Conducted code reviews, administered paired programming, and provided estimates, technical documentation, and development oversight, ensuring high-quality deliverables and adherence to best practices in a fast-paced agency environment.

EDUCATION

Drexel University

Bachelor of Science in Interactive Digital Media

Philadelphia, PA

Graduation Date: June 2016

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skilled in JavaScript, TypeScript, PHP, React.js, Vue.js, Next.js, Node.js, Laravel, CraftCMS, WordPress, GraphQL, REST API, HTML5, CSS3, AWS, Docker, Git, SQL, MySQL, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Firebase; experienced with web accessibility standards such as WCAG 2.1.