

DANIEL STEVEN DENNISON

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Location: Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Portfolio: dandeegames.com | LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/daniel-dennison-02a01919a

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Highly accomplished Game Designer and Full Stack Developer with Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Game Design and Development (NQF Level 7). Graduated with distinction-level performance across all modules, achieving perfect scores (100%) in multiple advanced courses. Proven ability to deliver exceptional results through dedication and perseverance, combining technical excellence with strong problem-solving capabilities. Experienced in team leadership, management, and mentoring, with track record of managing large teams and developing talent. Seeking indie game development or junior software development role in South Africa with preference for KwaZulu-Natal, Cape Town, or remote opportunities.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Game Development & Design

- Game Engines: Unity, Unreal Engine with advanced proficiency in C# and C++ programming
- 3D Software: Blender for modelling, animation, texturing, and asset creation
- Game Design: Level design, game mechanics, systems design, narrative design, player experience
- Development Practices: Agile methodology, version control (Git), iterative development

Software Development

- Programming Languages: C#, C++, JavaScript, Kotlin, HTML5, CSS3,
- Full Stack Development: Front-end and back-end development, cross-platform applications
- Database Management: SQL, database design, data optimisation
- Mobile & Web Development: Responsive design, mobile-first development
- Problem-Solving: Advanced debugging, code optimisation, system troubleshooting

Design & Professional Skills

- UI/UX Design: User interface design, user experience optimisation, prototyping
- Visual Design: Adobe Photoshop, digital art, animation, visual effects
- Team Leadership: Managed teams of 100+ personnel, mentoring and talent development
- Documentation: Technical documentation, design documentation, research methodology

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Game Design and Development

IIE Vega Institute, South Africa | 2023 – 2025 (Completed)

NQF Level 7 | SAQA ID 94726 | 360 Credits

Academic Excellence

- **Graduated with distinction-level performance across all 16 modules**
- Achieved 100% (perfect score) in: Game Development 2B, Game Development 3B, Game Design 3B, Work Integrated Learning 3B
- Achieved 99% in: Game Development 1B (99%), Game Development 3A (99%), Game Design 2B (99%), Game Art 2B (99%)
- Maintained consistent 85%+ average across all courses including advanced game development, design theory, 3D art, databases, and research methodology

Key Coursework & Competencies

- Advanced Game Development (4 modules): Full development lifecycle, advanced programming, optimisation
- Game Design (6 modules): Game mechanics, systems design, balancing, player psychology, UX
- Game Art (4 modules): 3D modelling, texturing, animation, visual design, asset optimisation
- Databases (87%): Database design, SQL, data management, optimisation
- Programming Logic and Design (92%): Core programming principles, algorithms, data structures
- Narrative for Gaming (85%): Interactive storytelling, narrative structures, dialogue systems
- Introduction to Research for ICT (92%): Research methodologies, technical documentation, analysis
- Open-Source Coding (93%): Collaborative development, version control, community contribution
- Work Integrated Learning (96% and 100%): Real-world project application, professional practice

Higher Certificate in Mobile App & Web Design

IIE Vega Institute, South Africa | 2022 – 2023

CIW Advanced HTML5 & CSS3 Specialist

Certified Internet Webmaster (CIW) | 2020 – 2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Tutor (Game Design & Development)

IIE Vega Institute, Durban, South Africa | 2024 – Present

- Provide personalised instruction and academic support to undergraduate students in game design, development, programming, and 3D art
- Mentor students in technical skill development including Unity, Unreal Engine, C#, and Blender
- Assist with project planning, problem-solving, and debugging complex technical issues in student projects
- Develop teaching materials and learning resources to enhance understanding of programming concepts and game design principles
- Recognised for ability to break down complex technical concepts and help students overcome learning challenges

Operations Manager

Legacy Yard, Durban, South Africa | 2022 – 2024

- Managed comprehensive operations for large-scale hospitality venue including facility management, staff coordination, and guest experience optimisation
- Led and coordinated team of 100+ staff members across multiple departments, ensuring cohesive service delivery and operational efficiency
- Developed and implemented weekly staff rosters, optimising resource allocation and managing complex scheduling logistics
- Managed vendor relationships, procurement processes, and supplier coordination to ensure operational continuity
- Resolved operational issues and stakeholder concerns with focus on positive outcomes and continuous improvement
- Demonstrated strong organisational skills and ability to maintain system functionality under high-pressure conditions
- Key Transferable Skills: Team leadership, stakeholder management, systematic problem-solving, resource optimisation, conflict resolution

Retail Manager

Kapow Cafe and Comics, Durban, South Africa | 2019 – 2021

- Managed all aspects of retail operations including inventory control, stock intake, sales processing, and financial reconciliation
- Provided exceptional customer service in specialty retail environment, building strong customer relationships and loyalty
- Maintained comprehensive product knowledge across diverse inventory and performed cafe operations including beverage preparation
- Key Transferable Skills: Customer relationship management, vendor coordination, inventory systems, attention to detail

CORE COMPETENCIES & STRENGTHS

Problem-Solving & Technical Excellence

- Proven track record of persevering through complex challenges to deliver exceptional results consistently
- Strong analytical skills with restorative approach: excels at debugging, troubleshooting, and fixing technical issues
- Consistent high performance across academic and professional work through dedication, determination, and strong work ethic

Collaboration & Leadership

- Developer mindset: natural talent for recognising and cultivating potential in others through mentoring and teaching
- Empathetic team player who creates positive, supportive working environments and values collaboration
- Strong stakeholder and vendor management skills developed through leadership of large diverse teams
- Highly productive in both independent and distributed team environments, particularly effective in remote work settings

Quality & Professionalism

- Meticulous attention to detail with unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality work
- Self-motivated with strong sense of personal accountability and ownership over project outcomes
- Systematic approach to tasks with focus on efficient processes, best practices, and continuous improvement
- Demonstrated grit and determination to see projects through to completion regardless of obstacles

PORTFOLIO & PERSONAL PROJECTS

Portfolio Website: dandeegames.com

Itch.io Game Portfolio: dandee012.itch.io

- Developed multiple complete game projects and prototypes demonstrating full development lifecycle proficiency
- Created portfolio showcasing expertise in Unity, Unreal Engine, C#, C++, 3D modelling, and game design
- Participated in game jams and collaborative development projects within game development community
- Contributed to open-source projects and actively engaged with developer communities

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- International Experience: Lived and worked in United Kingdom, bringing cross-cultural communication skills and adaptability
- Work Preferences: Open to junior developer, indie game developer, full stack developer, and software developer roles
- Work Style: Highly productive in independent work environments; thrives in remote settings where focus and quality matter most

REFERENCES

Available upon request