

# The Holberton Way

**Holberton**

# Holberton – the Secret Sauce

- Curriculum
- Software
- Methodology
- Values



# Curriculum

- Developed by professionals
- Gap in education & industry needs
- Consistent iteration & difficulties
- We got your back



CURRICULUM

SOFTWARE

METHODOLOGY

VALUES

# Software

- Automation
- Consistent + high quality
- Learning curve
- Scalable



CURRICULUM

SOFTWARE

METHODOLOGY

VALUES

# Methodology

- The framework
- Challenges -> Growth
- Active participation
- Peer to peer learning
- Project-based learning



CURRICULUM

SOFTWARE

METHODOLOGY

VALUES

# Values

- **Teamwork**

- Can't get through alone
- Collaboration + empathy

- **Grit**

- Marathon not a sprint
- Dedication, perseverance, + courage

- **Kindness**

- Break the toxicity
- Personal growth
- Make the world better
- Positive, inclusive environment



CURRICULUM

SOFTWARE

METHODOLOGY

VALUES

## The Framework

- A process to work through problems
  - For both students and staff
- Can be used on any problem
- Support

## Peer Learning

- Working together to understand concepts and solve problems
- Days specifically for structured project reflection

1. Read
2. Think
3. Think more + whiteboard
4. Ask why
5. Read the error messages
6. Google it
7. Google again
8. Ask a peer
9. Ask more peers
10. Ask your ST
11. Ask more STs
12. Ask staff, advisors, alumni



# Foundations



# T1 - Curriculum

## Holberton Basics

- Community
- Rules
- Software/Checker
- Social Media
- Public Speaking

## Technology Basics

- Intro to Tech
- Compilation
- Heap/Stack

## C

- Basics
- Functions
- Pointers
- Data Structures
  - Arrays
  - Singly Linked Lists
- Bit Manipulation
- Variadic Functions
- Memory Management
- File Redirection
- Static Libraries

## Linux

- Basics
- Permissions
- Redirections
- Syscalls

## Milestone Projects

- printf
- Shell

# T2 - Curriculum

## Python

- Basics
- Object-Oriented Programming
- Interpreted Languages
- Test Driven Development
- Error Handling
- I/O
- Web Scraping

## Algorithms & Data Structures

- More Data Structures
  - Stacks/Queues
  - Doubly Linked Lists
  - Hash Tables
  - Binary Trees
- Algorithms
  - Searching & Sorting
  - Big O

## Web Development

- AirBnB Clone
  - HTML
  - CSS
  - Unit Testing
  - JSON

## Databases

- SQL
- MySQL

## Linux

- Processes and Signals
- Scripting
- Command Line

## Systems Engineering

- Open Systems Interconnection Model
- TCP/IP

# T3 - Curriculum

## Systems Engineering / DevOps

- SSH, SSL/TLS, HTTP/S
- Webstack Debugging
- Web Servers (Nginx)
- Application Servers (Gunicorn)
- CI / CD (Jenkins)
- Docker
- Infrastructure as code
- Manage infrastructures (Puppet, Terraform)
- Automation with Ansible
- Load Balancers
- Networking
- Monitoring

## Python

- ORMs (SQLAlchemy)
- Framework (Flask)
- Templating (Jinja2)

## Web Development

- AirBnB Clone (Continued)
  - Javascript
  - JQuery
  - Deployment
  - APIs
    - Flask

## Special Projects

- Code Debugging
- Hack Days (Mini Hackathons)

## Portfolio project

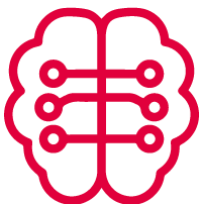
- Portfolio project (putting it all together)



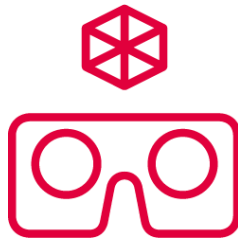
# Specializations

## Holberton Specializations

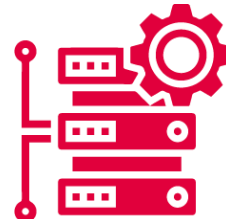
Long  
programs



**Machine  
Learning**



**AR/VR**



**Low Level &  
Algorithms**



**Web Stack**

Short  
programs



**Front End**



**Back End**



# Machine Learning

# Lead the Next Tech Revolution

- Self driving cars
- Voice controlled personal assistance
- Artificial Intelligence
- Computer vision
- Natural language processing
- Recommender system

## Fundamental approaches

- Supervised learning, unsupervised learning, reinforcement learning, deep learning

## Key figures

9 -months



1650 hours



42 projects



## Examples of projects

- Object detection
- Face recognition
- Q & A chatbot
- Stock predictions

# Machine Learning Specialization

## Math

- Linear algebra
- Plotting
- Calculus
- Probability
- Advanced linear algebra
- Multivariate probability
- Bayesian probability
- Convolutions and pooling

## Neural Networks & Deep Learning

- Convolutional Neural Networks
- Deep convolutional architectures
- Neural style transfers
- Recurrent Neural Networks
- Transfer learning
- Time series forecasting
- Natural language processing
- Transformer Applications
- QA Bot

## Supervised Learning

- Classification
- Optimization
- Error analysis
- Regularization
- Tensor
- Transfer learning

## Unsupervised learning

- Dimensionality reduction
- Clustering
- Hidden Markov models
- Hyperparameter tuning
- Autoencoders



# Machine Learning Specialization

## Reinforcement Learning

- Q-Learning
- Deep Q-Learning
- Temporal differences
- Policy gradients



10-months

## The Pipeline

- Pandas
- Data collection – APIs
- Databases
- Data processing
- Data augmentation
- ML life cycle



1650 hours

## Portfolio Project

- Machine learning portfolio project



42 projects

# Our Machine Learning Engineer:   Evis Plaku

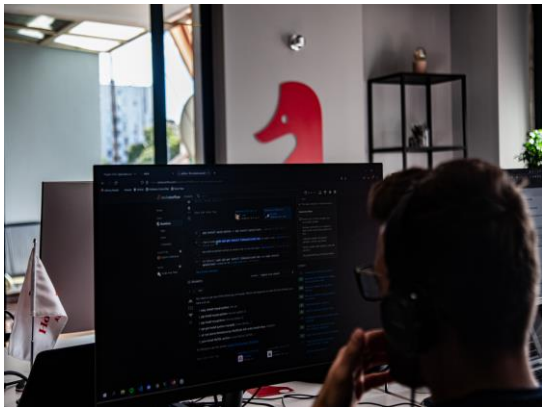
## Education

- **Ph.D Candidate in Artificial Intelligence**
  - Metropolitan University of Tirana
- **Research in Machine Learning**
  - C.U.A in Washington, D.C
- **M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics**
  - University of Freiburg, Germany
- **B.Sc & M.Sc. in Computer Science**
  - University of Tirana

## Work Experience

- **Software Engineer & Education Lead**
  - Holberton School in Albania
- **Lecturer**
  - Metropolitan University of Tirana
  - Canadian Institute of Technology
  - Polytechnic University of Tirana
  - Albanian University
  - University of Freiburg, Germany (teaching assistant)

# Our Campus: in the heart of Tirana



# Our Campus: a community



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# Full Stack Web Developer

# Web Development Master

- Streaming sites
- Online stores
- Own customized website
- Mobile applications
- State of the art tools & technologies

## Fundamental technologies

- JavaScript, Python, React, Redis, MySQL, Node.js, SAAS

## Key figures

9 -months



1450 hours



49 projects



## Examples of projects

- Desktop and mobile applications
- MySQL performance debugging
- CRM dashboard

# Full Stack Web Developer Specialization

## Front-End

- Developer tools
- Advanced HTML
- Advanced CSS
- Sass & Scss
- Flexbox
- Forms
- Responsive design
- Implement a design from scratch
- Bootstrap
- JavaScript advanced
- jQuery advanced
- Cookies & local storage
- Build a web app in JavaScript

## Back-End

- Python – Async comprehension
- Caching & Pagination
- Personal data
- Basic & session authentication
- User authentication
- Unit test and integration test
- Redis basic
- MySQL advanced
- NoSQL
- ES6 Basics, promises, classes, data manipulation
- Node.js
- Files manager

## React

- Typescript
- Webpack
- React intro
- React props
- React component
- React inline styling
- React state
- React immutable
- React Redux action creator + normalizer
- React Redux reducer + selector
- React Redux connectors and providers



**Augemented Reality**  
**Virtual Reality**



# Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality

## C#

- Hello world
- Conditions & loops
- Functions
- Data structures
  - Arrays, lists
  - Sets, dictionaries
  - Stack, queues
- Struct, enumerations
- Classes & namespaces
- Test driven development
- Inheritance
- Linear algebra
- Generics
- Interfaces
- Delegates, events
- Text-based interfaces

## Unity

- User interface
- Unity concepts
- Scripting
- UI
- Publishing
- Assets: models, textures
- Animation
- Audio
- AR business card
- 360 video
- VR room
- AR Slingshot game
- Face detection
- Unity Shader graph
- Port translation

## Special projects

- Image processing
- Unity: 2D game
- Ethical challenges in AR / VR

## Portfolio project

- Full project (400 hours)



**Thank  
You!**

