Mat Niznik

Long Beach, CA

Forward Deployed / Applied AI Engineer

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SUMMARY

Backend-leaning Full-Stack Software Engineer with 10 years shipping production web and mobile, who puts AI into real workflows and owns the result. I design and ship typed, tested services and REST APIs in Node.js/Express, Python, Flask and Django, backed by PostgreSQL and AWS, and I add LLM features where they earn their place: AI for the first pass at scale, evals behind it, and a human on the decisions that carry real stakes. Most recently that was a Claude assistant on Amazon Bedrock that works through 32 tools and passed all 210 answers of its eval.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Agents & RAG	Retrieval, Embeddings search, Tool use, Semantic search, Intent matching
LLMs	Anthropic Claude, Prompting, Structured output, Human-in-the-loop
Quality & Evals	Evals, Observability, Human-in-the-loop, Structured output, Approval gates
Backend	Node.js / Express, Flask, Django, FastAPI, REST API design, SQLAlchemy, Authentication & RBAC

Core competencies: Applied AI · Agents · Tool use · Embeddings · RAG · LLM · Anthropic Claude · Amazon Bedrock · Evals · Human-in-the-loop

EXPERIENCE

Founding Software Engineer · MintCollect

Remote · 2026

- **Built Ask MintCollect, a Claude assistant on Amazon Bedrock that answers through 32 tools calling the company's API with the user's own permissions, cites the help guides it retrieves, and turns every change into a proposal the user confirms.**
- **Built its eval: 70 questions run 3 times each with code checks and a calibrated judge; all 210 answers passed with 95.4% of input tokens read from the prompt cache, and the latest run's median cost was $0.00056 per answer.**
- Rebuilt the iOS and Android app in React Native and TypeScript from its first week and became its only app engineer, shipping 22 versions in seven months for an app with 85K+ accounts.
- Architecting and building a cross-platform React Native (Expo) application from the ground up for a trading-card data and marketplace platform, owning all front-end architecture decisions.

Stack: React Native, TypeScript, Expo, REST APIs, Python, Git / GitHub

Founder & Developer · Niznik Studio

Remote · 2020-Present

- **CoThink.AI, an AI-powered EdTech platform that helps faculty redesign assignments for AI-enhanced learning, with rubric-anchored grading; built with React and Python.**
- Independent development studio building AI-powered tools and startup MVPs end to end, from architecture and backend services to deployment.
- STNDOUT, an AI-driven LinkedIn personal-branding tool with automated content generation, co-founded with partners in Germany and Serbia.
- Consulting arm advising clients on startup development, GTM strategy, game production, IT project management, and product strategy.

Stack: React, Python, Anthropic Claude

Adjunct Professor, Computer Science & Software Development · Bethesda University of California 2024-Present

- **Built a weekly grading pipeline for 10 course sections: it pulls submissions from Populi, Claude drafts rubric-anchored grades, and a professor approves every grade before it counts.**
- Designed a project-based curriculum integrating modern AI tooling into the engineering workflow, and led faculty AI training for 6 department chairs on AI-assisted assignment design and evaluation.
- Teach Mobile Application Development (JavaScript, React Native), Web Development (HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Python, Django, Flask, SQL), Introduction to Programming (C, Python, Data Structures), and Cross-Platform Design (Unity, C#).
- Automated grading and attendance-compliance for Bethesda University of California as a weekly cron pipeline, fetching from the Populi API, AI-drafting rubric-anchored grades, auditing attendance, and emailing professors, with a human approving every grade.

CTO / Lead Developer · SentiKits Remote · 2025-2026

- Co-leading mobile development for a wellness app paired with physical product kits; defining the React Native app architecture and release workflow.
- Implemented in-app subscription logic and integrated the Shopify API to power an embedded commerce experience.
- Built the reflection-kit, journaling, and real-time community features on a fully serverless Firebase backend, shipping iOS and Android from one React Native codebase.

Stack: React Native, TypeScript, Node.js, Shopify API

Product Manager (Technical) · Zippia, Inc. 2024-2025

- **Built an AI job-matching engine that scored and ranked open roles against a user's skills and history, using embeddings to match on intent rather than keyword overlap.**
- Drove product decisions through backend data analysis across MongoDB, Elasticsearch, GA4, Clarity, and JSON structures.
- Improved product iteration efficiency by 42% by introducing a structured testing framework.
- Reduced resume-builder user drop-off by 17% by diagnosing and resolving a UX bottleneck through session-replay analysis.

Stack: MongoDB, Elasticsearch, GA4

EDUCATION

M.Sc. Computer Science Westcliff University Irvine

Master of Business Administration (GPA 3.91) Bethesda University of California

M.Sc. E-Business SGH Warsaw School of Economics

BBA, Management (Trade & Marketing) Poznan University of Economics

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent)