

My name is Ethan Nephew. I am passionate about learning how to solve problems with technology. I am a dedicated student who is eager to learn new skills.

At heart, I am a skeptic. This means that I am usually seeking to identify and fulfill a burden of proof. Often, we take for granted many core assumptions that serve as a foundation for what we call our knowledge. For me, I break down those assumptions by testing and verifying outcomes. I apply this approach to development.

I bring a heightened degree of rigor to my coding process through asking and answering epistemological questions. I want to understand my code and I want to understand code that others have wrote. Code that 'just works' or is 'just common sense' is insufficient for me. I prefer thoroughly tested code that I understand because code that I understand is code that I can maintain, troubleshoot, or modify. I believe in catering my code to be more human readable because I recognize that there is a possibility that someone else might have to work with my code.

During my time at Valencia College, an idea that I appreciated was from Professor Colin Archibald. To paraphrase, sometimes the things that work well for you are things that can make people not want to work with you. Often, software development is too grand of an undertaking for a single individual to accomplish. Therefore, it's important to establish habits and personal standards that are not merely of personal convenience but are of a collective benefit. That is something that I strive to do.

One of the more captivating moments in my education was when I learned about the old code running on IBM machines. What is fascinating about this is that the code outlived its authors. That is what I want to achieve. I want to write code that will outlive myself.

I have the foundational tools to learn new technologies. I am eager to work professionally in a development role and to grow my skills in a professional environment.