

Curriculum Vitae

Benjamin Mearns

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Skills

ESRI ArcMap

Expert, 6 years

- Extensive use in mainly academic research settings, but also directed application for public and private institutional clients
- Experience with all license levels and most geoprocessing tools
- Spatial Analyst, Geostatistical Analyst, Network Analyst, 3D Analyst
- ArcScene, ArcGIS Explorer
- Some practical experience with geodatabase workflows

ESRI ArcGIS Server

Beginner, 1 year

- Custom Web Mapping Applications with SDK and Visual Studio.NET
- Full install and configuration of a remotely accessed, shared ArcGIS server (IIS)

HTML and CSS

Expert, 10 years

- Flexible knowledge of HTML, with experience in business, government, not for profit, and institutional sectors
- Dynamic and static site construction
- Use of CSS for design and function

Adobe CS2

Expert, 8 years

- Experience in graphic design, print production, and web production environments

- Photoshop, GoLive, Premiere, ImageReady, InDesign, Illustrator,
- Slice based websites
- Layout, modification, and enhancement of print quality maps

JavaScript

Intermediate, 4 years

- Building scripts from the bottom up and modifying exemplary code
- Strong ability to infer based on example
- Focus on user interaction and dynamic content via the DOM

PHP

Intermediate, 4 years

- Full web applications
- Modification of shopping cart and inventory systems such as Zen Cart
- File and feed manipulation and parsing
- Mostly procedural but can also work in an object oriented environment

SQL

Intermediate, 2.5 years

- Basic query skills for both programmatic and manual data manipulation
- MS SQL Server, MySQL, and Postgresql
- Spatial datatypes and functions, especially via PostGIS

Flash

Intermediate, 3 years

- Navigation, user interface, and animation projects

Eviews, Matlab, R, SRSS, Stata, JmpIn

Intermediate, 4 years

- Significant experience in econometric and geostatistical analysis
- Integrating statistical evidence with geographical representation
- Some programmatic experience

VB/.NET and VBA

Intermediate, 3 years

- Basic syntax, decision-making, variable typing
- Experience with user interfaces via Visual Studio .NET and VBA

JSON, KML, RSS, XML

Beginner, 1 years

- Data driven web mapping and mashups

AJAX

Beginner, 0.5 years

- For fully featured web applications
- Using SAJAX library for PHP

SketchUp

Beginner, 0.5 years

- 3D models of structures and artifacts
- Integrated landscapes via ArcGIS
- Textures and materials

Plone CVS and Zope Application Server

Beginner, 0.3 years

- Managing workflow in an academic setting among many contributors for a content rich site
- Setup and configuration
- Some experience with Zope DTML, smarty templates, and modules

Experience

Jun 2007 - current

Research Staff

Penn Cartographic Modeling Laboratory

- Develop dynamic web pages to communicate geospatial data availability and requests
- Manage and transform geographic information to facilitate database and map creation

- Create thematic maps for client reference based on custom request

Mar 2002 - current

Private Practice

- Develop standards compliant web sites in HTML and DHTML
- Build and alter interfaces and dynamic sites with JavaScript, PHP and SQL
- Process and manage data in relational databases
- Design multimedia elements for web consumption
- Troubleshoot and configure PC and Mac hardware and software

Jan 2004 - May 2004

GIS Intern

Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization

- Process raw data into base and thematic maps for use and dissemination by Saint Paul District Councils

Jan 2003 - May 2005

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Research Fellow

Macalester College

- Perform oral interviews and an extensive literature review on Indonesian migration and land tenure
- Produce report and maps of findings

Oct 2002 - May 2005

GIS Laboratory Assistant

GIS Laboratory, Macalester College

- Assist students and researchers with GIS and ArcMap related questions and tasks
- Create maps and supporting documentation for use by the instructor

Jun 2001 - Aug 2001

Web and GIS Intern

Lexington County Planning and Development

- Develop a website used to organize planning codes and associated ordinances
- Gather GPS data, including center-lines for new parcels, via Trimble ArcPad GPS devices

- Observe an award winning production environment utilizing ArcIMS and other ESRI software, and participate in an ESRI conducted training session
- Attend community planning meetings

Education

Sep 2006 - current

University of Pennsylvania

MS Urban Spatial Analytics

Jun 2005 - Aug 2005

University of Wisconsin

Indonesian Language, Third and Fourth Semester

Sep 2001 - Sep 2005

Macalester College

BA Geography and Economics

Projects

Jun 2006 - current

healthBase

Penn Cartographic Modeling Laboratory

- Web application to communicate geospatial data availability and requests for University of Pennsylvania Health System patient-level diagnostic records

Jun 2006 - current

dinoride.com

- Web application for dynamic ridesharing, based on third party structured data and spatial functionality via PostGIS

Jun 2006 - current

Supergrit

- Massive ASP and SQL Server shopping cart based site expansion
- Creation of pages in ASP. Creation, manipulation, and management of SQL data based on paper catalogs

Dec 2005 - Jan 2006

The Motivation Corporation/IDC WebDev

- Expansion of dynamic site based on ZenCart. Form based data entry of new entries in PHP.

Mar 2002 - Aug 2006

Mayo Clinic/The Story Laboratory

- Development of Gynecology-Oncology Priority Book, an interface for rapid on-site research upon diagnosis
- Data processing and entry of timely rare disease information within a dynamic site for the Physicians Genomics Project
- Occasional layout and design work for clinic publication
- Hardware and software troubleshooting and configuration

Selected Lectures

- “Web Mapping Workflows for Collaborative Academic Projects.” University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA (2007 Nov 12)

Selected Abstracts

- Mearns B. Web-Based Mapping of Aghtamar Church and its Surroundings in Eastern Turkey. Paper Presentation, Byzantine Studies Conference Annual Meeting. 2007. University of Toronto.
- Mearns B. Differentiated Growth: A Geographical Approach to Institutional Development : Evidence from Indonesia, Nigeria, and Mexico. Paper Presentation, South East Asian Summer Studies Institute Student Conference. 2005. University of Wisconsin.
- Lund L, Lacayo-Emery M, Mearns B, Ofsevit A , and Sokol A. GIS Analysis of Foreclosures in the Twin Cities. Paper Presentation, Minnesota Academy of Science Annual Meeting. 2004. St. John’s University.