

Michael Houghton

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Senior Designer with experience ranging from leading in-house design teams to working as a “UX team of one” in the development of web and mobile applications – an advocate of design thinking and human-centered design

User Experience Architect

Kyra Solutions (Feb 2017 to Present)

Kyra is a technology services company that designs and develops user-centered applications focused on the interaction between government and the people it serves.

Responsibilities: Provide leadership in the area of design thinking within the business • Work with the business development and technical teams to design and develop the user experiences for web and mobile applications • Grow a design-oriented team

User Experience Lead

WeatherSTEM / Ucompass (Oct 2012 to Jan 2016)

WeatherSTEM is a technology platform that integrates weather and agricultural sensors into data-driven tools that provide safety notifications and STEM-based learning. WeatherSTEM was founded as a startup by Ucompass, the company that created the learning management system (LMS) used by the Florida Virtual School.

Responsibilities: Designed and developed STEM-based lessons that integrated live weather and agricultural data • Designed the LMS used by Florida Virtual School • Directed freelance designers • Led professional development events and student assemblies • Led business development webinars • Managed social media accounts

Projects & Clients: WeatherSTEM application and mobile app user interface design, Florida Virtual School LMS design, and the design and development of over 100 STEM-based lessons and a Meteorology course

Design Director

Homes.com (May 2004 to Oct 2012)

Homes.com is a leading national real estate technology company with a diverse range of marketing applications and services for agents, brokers, franchises, and multiple listing services.

Responsibilities: Directed a design team across four business units in the development of enterprise-level web applications for the real estate industry • Worked with the product development team to create new interface specs • Coordinated project goals and deadlines with the business and customer services teams • Created application architecture diagrams, wireframes, and prototypes • Designed the user interface for control panels and other tools • Designed site templates for franchises, brokers and agents

Projects & Clients: Homes.com site design, Homes Connect broker management application design, Homes.com style guide, RE/MAX site design, and ERA site design

Design Director

Mainline Information Systems (Apr 2001 to May 2004)

With more than 500 employees nationwide, Mainline is an IBM business partner and consulting firm with a broad suite of information technology products and services.

Responsibilities: Designed user interfaces for web applications and websites • Created budgets, managed projects and facilitated discovery meetings

Projects & Clients: Southern Poverty Law Center “Beholder” database user interface design, Regions Bank sub-site designs, and Digital Canopy branding project

Creative Director

LearnSomething (Jan 2000 to Jan 2001)

Purchased by Xerox in 2013, LearnSomething is a corporate eLearning company and the creators of the Learner Community suite of integrated corporate learning tools.

Responsibilities: Managed the creative department • Designed continuing education courses and the user interface for the corporate LMS • Worked with instructional designers to develop new courses

Projects & Clients: LearnSomething LMS user interface design

Adjunct Professor

Florida State University (Various Semesters, Aug 1996 to Aug 2009)

Taught undergraduate courses in web design for the School of Art and Design • Taught graduate-level interactive media design courses for the School of Communication • Managed the guest lecture series

Design Lead

Interactive Training Media (Nov 1995 to Dec 1999)

Designed CD-ROMs and kiosks for the health care, education, and forestry industries • Used Macromedia Director to program discs • Managed projects • Created a forestry kiosk for the Innoventions Pavilion at Epcot

Designer & Supervisor

Interlight Productions (Apr 1989 to Sep 1993)

Supervised a team of designers creating user interfaces for CD-i projects • Used the MediaMogul authoring tool to program discs • Created storyboards and illustrations • Planned and designed games • Created traditional cell animation and computer-generated animation • Managed projects

E D U C A T I O N

M.S. in Communication, Florida State University (Apr 1996)

Emphasis in new media technologies • Created award-winning program featured at MILIA '95 in Cannes, France

B.S. in Graphic Design & Advertising, Florida State University (Apr 1989)

Double major in Graphic Design and Advertising • Magna Cum Laude • Delta Tau Delta Fraternity

T E C H N I C A L

Advanced (Photoshop, Illustrator, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, and Office 365)

Intermediate (Adobe XD, Sketch, InDesign, After Effects, jQuery, JavaScript, DevTools, and WordPress)

Basic (PHP, MySQL, Angular2, Ionic, Git, and Command Line)

C O M M U N I T Y

Founder, Refresh Tallahassee (*lead a local Meetup group of over 600 members focused on front-end design & development*)

UX Mentor, Domi Station (*volunteer as a mentor for a local startup incubator and co-working space*)

Event Organizer & Partner, ConvergeFL Conference 2012 (*organized the inaugural Florida-based instance of ConvergeSE*)

Project Leader, Honduras Water System Installations (*led 3 teams on relief projects in Roatan, Honduras*)

Founding Board Member, Tallahassee Fuller Center for Housing (*participated in the establishment of the local chapter*)

Team Member, Habitat for Humanity (*participated in several home builds*)