

# Luke Acosta

## Entry Level Java Developer

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### STRENGTHS

- 🔧 **Java Application Building**  
Built reservation and inventory features in Core Java; careful class design made reviews clearer and helped classmates trust each release.
- 🔍 **Practical Debugging**  
Used logs, debugger sessions, and root-cause notes during capstone defects; peers often asked for help when a test behaved oddly.
- 👥 **Collaborative Delivery**  
Worked through branches and pull requests with three students; feedback became a useful checkpoint rather than a last-minute surprise.
- ✅ **Testing Discipline**  
Added JUnit and integration scenarios around conflicts and duplicate records; boundary cases made demonstrations calmer and documentation stronger.
- 🎓 **Learning Agility**  
Balanced Java, C++, coding interview practice, and portfolio work during a career-building year; steady iteration kept skills moving forward.

### SKILLS

Java Core Java C++  
Object-Oriented Programming  
Data Structures Algorithms JUnit  
JDBC PostgreSQL  
REST-Style Services Git GitHub  
Debugging Unit Testing  
Integration Testing

### SUMMARY

Early-career **Java** developer with a 2026 Bachelor of Science in **Computer Science** and supervised practicum experience building reliable **software programming** solutions. Brings hands-on knowledge of Java, **Core Java**, C++, object-oriented programming, data structures, algorithms, REST-style services, JDBC, PostgreSQL, Git, JUnit, debugging, and technical documentation. University projects turned requirements into tested features, database-backed workflows, and clear demonstrations for faculty and peers. Structured coding interview preparation strengthened problem-solving habits and practical communication. Experience with code review, unit testing, integration testing, Agile sprint planning, and iterative portfolio development supports client-focused delivery. Eager to join Northstar CodeWorks, contribute dependable work on technology client projects, and keep growing through feedback, collaboration, and practical software development.

### EDUCATION

#### Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science

Northern Illinois University 🎓 GPA: 3.8 📅 2026 📍 DeKalb, IL

**Coursework:** Java programming, Core Java, C++ programming, data structures and algorithms

### TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Java, Core Java, C++
- **Object-Oriented Design:** Encapsulation, Inheritance, Interfaces
- **Data Structures:** Linked Lists, Stacks, Maps
- **Algorithms:** Sorting, Lookup, Runtime Analysis
- **Testing Tools:** JUnit, Unit Testing, Integration Testing
- **Database Technologies:** PostgreSQL, JDBC, Relational Data Access
- **Version Control:** Git, GitHub, Feature Branches
- **Web Services:** REST-Style Services, Request Handling, Service Classes
- **Development Practices:** Code Review, Debugging, Exception Handling
- **Delivery Methods:** Agile Sprint Planning, User Stories, Pull Requests

### EXPERIENCE

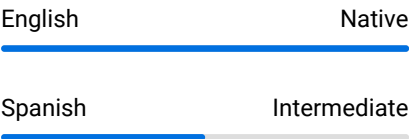
#### Java Developer Practicum Student

University Java Development Practicum 📅 January 2026 - May 2026 📍 Naperville, IL

Supported a supervised Java development practicum focused on a Core Java reservation service, relational data access, testing, documentation, and collaborative release practices. Translated faculty needs into working software while building practical habits for client project delivery.

- Built a **Core Java** equipment reservation service with encapsulation, interfaces, collections, and exception handling across a 12-feature backlog.
- Converted faculty requirements into user stories, class diagrams, and implementation tasks, giving weekly demonstrations a traceable delivery path.
- Added input validation and JUnit tests for reservation conflicts, date handling, and invalid records, then fixed defects found during instructor review.
- Connected application workflows with PostgreSQL through JDBC and documented schema decisions, query behavior, and setup steps for repeatable execution.
- Used Git feature branches and pull-request code reviews among three students, applying feedback before each graded release.
- Presented a working prototype and troubleshooting guide to 20 classmates, earning high distinction for reliability and technical documentation.

LANGUAGES



MY CAREER



- Java Developer Practicum Student at University Java Development Practicum (4 Months)
- Java Developer at Software Engineering Capstone Project (4 Months)
- Java Developer Student at Object-Oriented Programming Course Project (4 Months)

Java Developer

Software Engineering Capstone Project 📅 August 2025 - December 2025 📍 Aurora, IL

Delivered a supervised **Java** capstone application that connected student interests with volunteer opportunities. Owned feature implementation, test coverage, defect analysis, documentation, and team coordination, creating a practical setting for software programming growth.

- Developed a Java REST-style application with search, filtering, registration, and profile features, giving reviewers a complete service workflow for demonstration.
- Applied object-oriented design and reusable service classes to separate business rules from persistence and request handling, making changes easier to test.
- Implemented **C++** comparisons for sorting and lookup strategies, using runtime observations and test cases to support algorithm decisions in a final report.
- Created unit and integration tests for incomplete profiles, duplicate registrations, and unavailable opportunities before each sprint review.
- Diagnosed defects through structured logs and debugger sessions, then recorded root causes and corrective actions in a shared issue tracker.
- Coordinated requirement walkthroughs and sprint presentations with four classmates, producing an installation guide and runnable repository for faculty review.

Java Developer Student

Object-Oriented Programming Course Project 📅 January 2025 - May 2025 📍 Chicago, IL

Completed a supervised object-oriented programming project for a simulated community bookstore. Built foundational Java and Core Java skills through domain modeling, persistence, testing, C++ comparisons, peer review, and live demonstrations.

- Designed a **Core Java** inventory application modeling books, orders, customers, and stock movements with inheritance and interfaces for maintainable domain behavior.
- Implemented menu-driven workflows, file-based persistence, and defensive error handling, preserving records after malformed quantities or identifiers.
- Wrote JUnit tests for pricing rules, inventory updates, and order cancellation, using boundary cases before final classroom submission.
- Compared Java and C++ implementations of linked lists, stacks, and maps, documenting memory and usability tradeoffs in a technical reflection.
- Used Git for incremental commits and reviewed peer code for naming, duplication, and maintainability during scheduled lab sessions.
- Demonstrated application behavior to an instructor and 15 classmates, responded to live test scenarios, and revised documentation from evaluation feedback.

PROJECTS

Volunteer Opportunity Matching Service 📅 2025

Built a Java REST-style service with profile, search, filtering, and registration workflows. Practiced requirements analysis, object-oriented design, testing, debugging, documentation, and team delivery through a complete capstone release.

Equipment Reservation Prototype 📅 2026

Created a Core Java reservation prototype backed by PostgreSQL and JDBC. Added validation, exception handling, JUnit coverage, Git review practices, and setup guidance for dependable classroom demonstrations.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Computer Science Capstone Excellence Award, Northern Illinois University, 2025
- Dean's List, Northern Illinois University, Fall 2025 and Spring 2026
- Undergraduate Academic Achievement Scholarship, Northern Illinois University, 2024 - 2026

CERTIFICATIONS

- Java Object-Oriented Programming Certificate 📅 2025
- C++ Programming Fundamentals 📅 2025
- Git and GitHub Foundations 📅 2026

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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- Peer Tutor, Computer Science Learning Center, Northern Illinois University, 2025 - 2026
- Member, Association for Computing Machinery Student Chapter, 2024 - 2026
- Facilitator, Coding Interview Practice Group, Northern Illinois University, 2025 - 2026

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**Work Status** : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

## REFERENCES

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AVAILABLE ON REQUEST