

NIAT EMNETU

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A dedicated professional with excellent problem-solving and communication skills. Experience leading cross-functional teams and projects within fast-paced environments. Passionate about creating equitable and inclusive user experiences for all, by leveraging various user centered design principles.

Areas of Expertise

Product Strategy
Process Improvements
Cross-Team Collaboration
Product Lifecycle Management
OKR's
Quantitative Analysis
Communication
Risk Management
Organization

Tools

Adobe Illustrator
Figma
Procreate
Microsoft Suite
FigJam

Design

User Research
Affinity Mapping
Personas
Storyboarding
Prototyping
Usability tests
A/B Testing
Ideation

Education

University of Washington // Master of Human-Computer Interaction and Design

Graduation Date: August 2025

Relevant Coursework

- Navigating Design in an Organization, Usability and User Research, Ideation

Professional Experience

Microsoft – Viva Insights // Program Manager

February 2024 – August 2024 · Redmond, WA (Contract)

- Collaborated with design, engineering, and product management to lead the go-to-market strategies for Viva Insights Copilot features
- Identified data driven recommendations and prioritizations to enhance customer satisfaction with Customer Consented Viva Insights Reports
- Maintained the Viva Insights Azure DevOps ecosystem resulting in increased accuracy and visibility into feature releases by 82%

Microsoft – Offensive Research & Security Engineering // Program Manager

October 2020 – March 2023 · Redmond, WA

- Led semester plans for 2 engineering teams, prioritizing projects aligned with business needs, and establishing OKRs which ensured seamless communication and alignment with Program Management and Engineering leadership
- Managed the resolution of all Microsoft Security Response Center bugs on a monthly basis, ensuring that 10 million Windows Insider members received secure solutions for effective testing of Microsoft's pre-release software
- Directed compliance readiness initiatives for Windows 11, resulting in the secure delivery of this release to 400 million monthly active users
- Conducted audits on engineering teams across Windows, evaluating their adherence to 50 Microsoft Secure Development Lifecycle requirements which led to the identification of security coverage gaps and the proposal of innovative solutions to enhance their processes

Microsoft – OneNote // UX Designer (Capstone)

January 2020 – June 2020 · Seattle, WA

- Conducted 50 surveys and 10 usability tests to identify user needs and prioritize pain points with online note-taking
- Conducted detailed market research and competitive analysis' to identify trends and user requirements, providing actionable insights that informed product strategy and feature prioritization
- Iterated on multiple designs by conducting usability tests
- Designed 4 new OneNote experiences by integrating several complex enterprise applications, design systems, and target audiences to streamline collaborative and remote capabilities

Leadership

Microsoft - Black Summer Intern Experience // Community Outreach Co-lead

March 2021 - September 2022 · Redmond, WA

- Planned and led a hackathon design event for 45 interns in partnership with Africatown Community Land Trust, a local non-profit organization, resulting in interns creating cohesive products to help solve social issues
- Mentored 4 interns by providing guidance and resources to accelerate their personal and professional development

HOPE Eritrean Social Services // Youth Program Coordinator

January 2016 - Present · Seattle, WA

- Organize and lead semi-annual college prep workshops for underrepresented high school students by reviewing admissions processes, providing individualized application and personal statement feedback, and career counseling
- Orchestrate engaging social media campaigns, design compelling flyers and merchandise which has contributed to a 95% increase in youth retention rates