

Said Marouf

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PROFILE

Dynamic and empathetic leader with over 6 years of experience in engineering leadership, culminating as Head of Engineering at Zalando SE. Recognized for fostering empathy and driving results through strategic planning, team empowerment, and innovation. Led diverse and highly engaged teams, implementing cutting-edge practices and data-driven delivery plans. Adept at inspiring collaboration, cultivating talent, and delivering high-impact software solutions.

EDUCATION

09/2008 – 06/2012
Charlotte, United States

Computing & Information Systems | PhD
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Thesis: Clustering and Recommendation Techniques for Access Control Policy Management

Advisor: Dr. Mohamed Shehab

GPA: 4.0

09/2006 – 05/2008
La Crosse, United States

Software Engineering | Master
University of Wisconsin - La Crosse

GPA: 4.0

01/2001 – 06/2005
Gaza, Palestine

Computer Engineering | Bachelor
Islamic University of Gaza

GPA: 89.5%

WORK EXPERIENCE

01/2022 – present
Berlin, Germany

Head of Engineering
Zalando SE

- Led two teams of 20 engineers, including 2 engineering managers.
- Directed highly diverse and engaged teams responsible for the majority of key customer-facing features and premises on the iOS and Android App.
- Fostered innovation with the establishment of a recurring Innovation Day at the department level, leading to a dramatic increase in team motivation and engagement.
- Implemented a data-driven delivery plan, enabling high-confidence estimations and feasibility and complexity analysis, resulting in improved project planning and execution.
- Collaborated closely with product management and stakeholders to align technical initiatives with business goals and customer needs.
- Provided mentorship and guidance to engineering managers and team members to support their professional development and growth. Successfully enabled the promotion of tens of directs at various seniority levels.
- Established and maintained effective communication channels across teams and departments to facilitate seamless collaboration and knowledge sharing.

07/2019 – 12/2021
Berlin, Germany

Engineering Manager
Zalando SE

- Led a team of 12 engineers responsible for the Product Detail Page and Customer reviews in the iOS and Android App.
- Implemented efficient development processes resulting in improved product quality

WORK EXPERIENCE

and user experience.

- Collaborated with product owners to prioritize and plan feature development, ensuring alignment with business objectives and user needs.
- Mentored and coached team members to enhance technical skills and foster professional growth.
- Facilitated cross-team collaboration to ensure seamless integration of features and timely delivery of releases.

07/2018 – 07/2019

Berlin, Germany

Feature/Tech Lead

Zalando SE

- Served as a Feature/Tech Lead for the Product Details Page, Wishlist, Search and Catalog premises in the iOS and Android App.
- Led the development of key customer-facing features, ensuring alignment with product vision and technical requirements.
- Provided technical guidance and mentorship to team members, fostering their professional growth and development.
- Collaborated with product management and cross-functional teams to define feature requirements and priorities.

10/2015 – 07/2018

Berlin, Germany

Senior iOS Engineer

Zalando SE

- Developed and maintained the Zalando Fashion Store iOS app in a team of 12 iOS engineers, using Objective-C and Swift, contributing to a complex iOS codebase utilizing a Viper-like architecture.
- Utilized Git and GitHub for version control and collaborative development.
- Managed the release process to the App Store, ensuring timely and successful deployments.
- Practiced test-driven development to ensure code quality and maintainability.
- Acted as a mentor for mid-level and junior engineers, providing guidance and support to foster their professional growth and development.

01/2015 – 09/2015

Berlin, Germany

Senior iOS Engineer

Bloon

- Sole developer and maintainer of the e-book reader iOS app, using Objective-C and Swift.
- Closely cooperating with our back end engineer, product manager, and other stakeholders.
- Delivered key features such as push notifications integration, in-App purchases, theming, and other key user experiences.

07/2013 – 12/2014

Gaza, Palestine

Dean of the IT College

University of Palestine

- Served as Dean of the IT College, managing academic programs, faculty, and administrative operations to drive success.
- Strategically guided the college's growth and development, assuring alignment with organizational objectives.
- Collaborated with faculty and staff to enhance teaching quality, research initiatives, and community service.
- Established and nurtured industry partnerships to promote student internships, research projects, and employment opportunities.
- Represented the college in university committees and external engagements to advance its mission and strategic goals.

02/2013 – 12/2014

Gaza, Palestine

Assistant Professor

University of Palestine

- Instructed undergraduate students in Mobile Application Development, Computer Science, and Quality Assurance courses
- Provided guidance and mentorship to students on academic and career-related issues
- Joined forces with departmental and university colleagues in developing curriculum

WORK EXPERIENCE

and contributing to academic governance initiatives

03/2009 – 09/2015

Indie iOS & Mac Developer

Developer of various iOS and Mac apps.

iOS:

- Move - Step Tracker
- Osfoora - Twitter clients. Ranked Top 10 in Social Networking in the USA and many countries, Top 100 Overall in Japan.

Mac:

- Instalicious for Instagram
- Osfoora - Twitter client

SKILLS

Team Leadership
Professional

Technical Project
Management
Professional

Innovation and Creativity
Professional

Problem Solving &
Decision Making
Professional

Emotional Intelligence
Professional

Agile Methodologies
Professional

Strategic Planning and
Resource Allocation
Professional

Communication and
Collaboration
Professional

Mentoring and Coaching
Professional

Stakeholder Management
Professional

Growth & Performance
Management
Professional

STRENGTHS

Empathetic Leadership # Strategic planning # Problem-solving # Innovation # Developing people

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship for my Master's degree in the USA.

HOBBIES



Long Walks



Podcasts



Audio Books



Football and board games
with my kids