Nikhilesh (Nik) Chhetri

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A curious and motivated engineer who strives to provide value and learn.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

AI Engineer, Central Service Association

Tupelo, MS · June 2022 – Present

- Architected, developed, and deployed efficient LLM-based systems using vLLM and Docker, delivering secure and scalable AI applications that are currently offered to clients.
- Fine-tuned large language models using LoRA for cost-effective domain adaptation; integrated semantic search with vector databases to build high-accuracy, context-aware RAG pipelines.
- Migrated CI/CD pipelines from GitHub Actions to Jenkins, improving deployment reliability and increasing team productivity by 50%.
- Automated infrastructure provisioning and deployment using Ansible, streamlining production workflows and improving stability.
- Led technical decision-making and took ownership of architecture design and system deployments across AI, full stack, and infrastructure domains.

Student Researcher, Mississippi State University

Starkville, MS · August 2019 – June 2022

- Researched travel time estimation for the City of Starkville using Torch, YOLO, and image processing on live traffic camera data, with LSTM and GNN models for travel time prediction.
- Researched the Highway-In-The-Sky (HITS) protocol for unmanned drones for last-mile delivery for Amazon and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Amazon Prime Drone Delivery platform.
- Wrote documentation for the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) ATSPM implementation.

EDUCATION

Startup Foundry, Harvard Business School

MA · August 2026 – October 2026 · Innovation, entrepreneurship, and leadership.

Master's in Data Science, University of the Cumberlands

KY · August 2023 – December 2025 · LLMs, AI, ETL, and ML models.

Bachelor's in Computer Science, Mississippi State University

MS · August 2019 – June 2022 · Computer software, hardware, and general studies.

SKILLS

AI & Machine Learning: LLMs, RAG, LoRA, AI Agents, AI Evaluation Strategy, Vector Databases, Torch

Software Engineering: Python, APIs, SQL and NoSQL, Web Crawlers, Full Stack Engineering, End-to-end Development, System Design, Secure and Scalable Systems

Tools & Infrastructure: vLLM, Docker, Jenkins, GitHub Actions, Ansible, n8n, Claude, Codex

PROJECTS

- **vLLM**: Contributed to the open-source vLLM project.
- **BuildeerAI**: AI-powered engineering app to build things in physics-simulated environments.
- **Sikshya**: AI-native education platform where teachers can add curriculum for grounded answers, grade papers using AI, and more.

- **AI News Agent, Legendary Stories, and others**: Automated social media content generator built with n8n and Python.
- **AI Stock Picker**: Stock selection tool using machine learning and statistics, written in Python with the Alpaca Markets API.
- **AI Quant Firm**: System that auto-improves financial ML models (running locally on a Mac mini).

LANGUAGES

English, Nepali, Hindi, Spanish