**Name = Sushmita Dhital**

**Journal Entry**

**Part One**

**Have you changed your career plans?**

I did not change much but made some refinements to my career plans. At first, I was very interested and dedicated to knowing what software developer do, how software development works, while learning more about computer science, I found more interested in Data Science and Machine Learning. After that I did some research, and I got to know more about it as a result I was very fond of learning Data Science and Machine Learning. After that I spend more time learning myself through online platforms like YouTube, I took Udemy course where I learn deep learning, Machine learning and so on. After that I felt like I can do better in this field and excel my skills. I took suggestions, advice from my seniors who had experience in market. I did self-study, coursework, and feedback from my seniors, who make me believed in myself and encourages me to grow myself in field. It was very important for me to make my hands dirty and have some hands-on project. As a result, I did some personal projects, which helped me a lot to grow confidence in data science. I was hunting and doing research, learned how it is trending in the market. From my research I came to conclusion that currently and for long term vision it is a booming CS field, and the growing demand for data-driven decision-making motivates me to excel in Data Science.

**How has your thinking about your career evolved?**

Gradually, I realized that without technical skills it is very hard to sustain in market for long time. During my self-study time I got to know that technical skill is major requirement, which really pushed me to learn programming languages, excel my decision-making process, communication and I learned Data Visualization. The main goal was to learn Python and SQL. Beside that I was learning PowerBI and tableau through YouTube After that, I felt I’m going on right track. Now, I can clearly see that the future appeared to be quite clear, and I was becoming more active as I felt comfortable using my technical talents to construct projects. I realized that learning data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to my skill set made sense to me. I gain some confidence in Working on assignments and personal projects which even helps me to know the importance of data analytics in a variety of sectors, including banking, healthcare, and finance. This research makes me believe that I can do better in my career path and my desire to work as a machine learning engineer or data scientist.

**Have you completed any research about your choice of career?**

Yes, I did, and I explored a lot about data science and machine learning, including how the market is evolving in these areas. I consulted with my seniors, who are in this field. Based on that, I started to do projects, engage in self-study, and studied the job market, required skills, and industry demands. When I researched more about data science and machine learning, I learned that having certifications like IBM or AWS Machine Learning Certification would enhance my qualifications. I’m planning to do my master’s in finance, where I can open myself up to fintech and quantitative analysis.

**Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?**

So far, I have achieved course outcomes in areas like databases, algorithms, software development, operating systems, and data visualization. Some completed or notable projects include developing a Power BI dashboard, creating a heart disease prediction model, and building a music recommendation system. Though I have worked on good projects, I still need to refine my expertise in machine learning techniques, big data processing, and cloud-based solutions.

**Part Two: Status Checkpoints Table**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Checkpoint** | **Software Design and Engineering** | **Algorithms and Data Structures** | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Databases** | |
| **Name of Artifact Used** | Driver Pass System | Music Recommendation System | Power BI Dashboard |
| **Status of Initial Enhancement** | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | For better user interaction Implemented additional UI features | | For better recommendation accuracy Improved algorithm efficiency | Using power query to enhance data cleaning anf transformation |
| **Submission Status** | Submitted for review | Submitted for review | Submitted for review |
| **Status of Final Enhancement** | Tested and debugged | Fine tuning model parameters | Added more filters and slicers |
| **Uploaded to ePortfolio** | NO | NO | NO |
| **Status of Finalized ePortfolio** | In progress | In progress | In progress |

In sum-up, I am continuously working on projects, I’m learning and adapting with my mistakes and re doing and re correcting my work. Overall, I must say my progress is steady. I look forward to finalizing my eportfolio to showcase my skills and qualification more effectively.