1.7 Learning Journal

1. What is an Object Relational Mapper and what are the advantages of using one?

   An Object Relational Mapper (ORM) is a programming technique that allows you to work with relational databases using OOP. It acts as a bridge between the relational database and the programming language and provides a way to interact with the database using objects and classes. Advantages are when using an ORM can simplify database interactions, increase productivity, enhance code maintainability, and provide flexibility and portability when working with relational databases in Object-Oriented applications.

2. By this point, you've finished creating your Recipe app. How did it go? What's something in the app that you did well with? If you were to start over, what's something about your app that you would change or improve?

   It went well, so far Python has been an easier concept to pick up than JavaScript was for me. I think I made the app easy for users to know what information to enter with clear prompts. If I could change anything I would add an option for hours instead of just minutes for cooking time.

3. Imagine you're at a job interview. You're asked what experience you have creating an app using Python. Taking your work for this Achievement as an example, draft how you would respond to this question.

   I developed a Recipe app using Python where the app stores different recipes in a SQL database. Users enter the recipe name, ingredients, and cooking time and the app calculates the difficulty level based on the data entered. Users are then able to view recipes, search recipes by ingredients, edit recipes, and delete recipes through the Main Menu.

4. You've finished Achievement 1! Before moving on to Achievement 2, take a moment to reflect on your learning in the course so far:
   a. What went well during this Achievement?

      I picked up on Python quite easily.

   b. What's something you're proud of?

      I am proud of the work I did on the app, the usability as well as making sure my code was clean.

   c. What was the most challenging aspect of this Achievement?

      For me it has been time management. I spent more time on practice exercises in the beginning of the achievement but have now figured out a better way to manage the time it takes to complete this next part of the course.

d. Did this Achievement meet your expectations? Did it give you the confidence to start working with your new Python skills?

Yes. I am very ready to use my new skills in the next part of the course.

e. What's something you want to keep in mind to help you do your best in Achievement 2?

Don't get hung up for too long on things you don't understand without taking mind breaks and googling or asking my mentor for help.