Name: Braganza, Ralph Angelov F.
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1. Why is it important for Computer Engineers to have both hardware and software knowledge instead of specializing in only one?

Well, first of all, obtaining two skills is better than one if you have a healthy balance of studying the hardware side and the software side of computer engineering and actually applying it to your daily life. The importance of it is very crucial for one to be able to develop or unlock their full potential when handling any computerized items or applications because what happens if your code or the application you're developing is not running properly? If you only understand the software side, you might overlook the possibility that the issue lies in the hardware, such as compatibility, memory management, or even signal processing. On the other hand, if you only understand hardware, you may struggle to optimize or troubleshoot the logic, algorithms, or programming structures behind the application. That is why having the knowledge of both hardware and software is important in computer engineering.

2. Aside from technical knowledge, which personal qualities do you think are most important for an engineer to succeed in the real world? Why?

The number one personal quality that is 100% important (at least for me) is critical thinking because in computer engineering thinking is all you'll be doing every day; each day is another challenge to test your brain cells to solve complex problems, especially when creating code for different specifications and troubleshooting with broken/malfunctioning hardware. Another quality is communication because there is no way one can survive on their own in this program, so asking for help and creating that bond is a must.