

# CSC493 – Weekly Reports

Your name: Joy Mirembe

Week: One

## Part 1: Weekly Progress Report

- **Accomplishments:** What did you accomplish since the last class meeting?

Since our last class meeting, I've decided to focus on one project idea: creating a budgeting app for college students. After having different conversations with my friends, I realized that there is an evident need for a practical tool to help us manage our finances as we transition into the real world after graduation- which for most of us is one or two semesters away. This project aligns with my skills and interests in the intersection between technology and finance.

I believe this app can make a meaningful impact on my peers by promoting financial literacy and independence. In the coming weeks, I'll conduct research, gather user feedback, to help in guiding an app that whose user interface and usability is useful and intuitive for the users, then I can start the app development.

- **Challenges:** What are your current roadblocks?

Currently, I'm facing a challenge of trying plan out my time so that I draw the perfect balance between creating a human centered app (that is as intuitive and as helpful as possible), and also getting started with the more technical aspects of this project like introducing databases for storing the data, and creating the app.

- **Desired Discussion Points:** Do you have any desired discussion points that are not related to roadblocks?

I have to look at the possible technical challenges involved with creating my app. Developing a budgeting app is going to involve working with databases and APIs, and data visualization tools, among other technologies. I have a bit of exposure to each of these, but I might have to reach out and also spend some extra time learning them so that I can make progress on my project.

- **Future Goal:** What do you plan to accomplish before our next class meeting? These plans should be related to roadblocks or discussion points. If you plan to change direction, explain why.

Since this is my first reflection that introduces my project; I will start with a general overview of my goals throughout this project and end with next week's goal.

### Project goals:

- User interface design: I'll design an intuitive and user-friendly interface that makes it easy for users to input their financial information and view their budget. This will involve creating wireframes, high fidelity mockups(representations of my app), and prototypes to test and refine my design.
- Database design: I'll design a database schema to store and retrieve the user's financial information. This will involve choosing the right data types, defining relationships between tables, and optimizing queries for performance.

- Data visualization: I'll use data visualization techniques to present the user's financial information in a clear and understandable way. This could involve creating charts, graphs, or other visual representations of the data.
- (Might do) API integration: If I'm able to, I might include features that connect with the user's financial accounts.
- (Might do) Security: Since the app will be dealing with sensitive financial information, I might explore using encryption, implementing secure authentication methods, and following best practices for handling user data.

My next week's goal is to start on my user interface design, while also getting exposure to working with databases.

## Part 2: Time Reporting

Make sure that as you fill out the first prompt, you include in enough detail in the summary. For example, "debugging" is vague, but "debugged function X to make sure that when user does action Y, it is called and returns the value Z" is better.

- **Time Spent:** Briefly explain how much time you spent on your project. If you worked on multiple components, each should get a detailed summary.

I have spent 2 hours on my project.

- 15 minutes: Continuing my research on different project ideas and brainstorming potential options.
- 45 minutes: Holding different interviews with different Berea College students (from different demographics, including race, gender, etc) to get a better idea of which app could be more relevant to them.
- 10 minutes: Narrowing down my options and deciding to focus on a budgeting app.
- 50 minutes:
  - Researching existing budgeting apps and identifying features that I want to include in my app.
  - Outlining the different aspects of my project, such as user interface design, database design, data visualization, API integration, and security; and understanding how each of these will play a roll in my project

- **Weekly Total Time Spent:** Make sure to add up all the hours and minutes correctly.

2 hours

- **Total Project Time Spent:** After the number of hours and minutes, make sure to briefly explain whether you are on track and if not, what you may need to do in order to achieve what you set out to accomplish.

4 hours- I'm currently on track; I have narrowed down my options to a specific project, and I have a more holistic picture of how my project could come together.

## Rubric:

The following rubric will be used, but they might change as needed.

### Accomplishments (3 points)

1 point for a general description of progress, 2 points for specifics on progress, 3 points for specifics AND referring to previous targets and explaining how currently accomplishments build on previous ones.

### Challenges (3 points)

1 point for mentioning there are roadblocks, 2 points for specifics, 3 points for specifics AND what was done already to try to overcome them.

### Desired discussion points (2 points)

1 point for at least one relevant discussion point as a general question, 2 points for relevant discussion points with specifics

### Future Goals (2 points)

1 point for concrete future targets (i.e. "working more on the project" is a zero, but "working on getting component X to interface with component Y" suffices), 2 points for tying in the targets with what was hopefully discussed in the meeting.

### Time Spent (3 points)

1 point for including general statements of how much time was spent ("4 hours on coding"), 2 points for splitting time into specific parts ("1.5 hours on research on component X, 1 hour coding, 2.5 hours debugging"), 3 points for specific parts and details on the pieces ("1.5 hours researching Turtle interface for drawing concentric circles given inputs from the user, 1 hour coding function X that used that interface, 2.5 hours testing function X by giving it multiple values and fixing errors for values A, B, C, and D")

### Weekly Total Time (1 point)

### Total Project Time (2 points)

1 point for summing the values correctly, 2 points for the total time AND reflection on progress (you are confident to fit the target and if not, what course corrections you anticipate needing to make)