Chris Watt

2022 Dec 13

IT FDN 110 B AU 22

Assignment 10

Course Reflection

Reflecting on what is learned and how far the work took me on this journey:

I learned that with some planning and organization, even completely new skills can be learned. Computer programming was a topic only in the news on how we are advancing very quickly with artificial intelligence development; also, a conversation topic amongst a few of my friends who are already capable with programming and seem genuinely interested in how it works, and I too wanted to gain insight for various reasons. The work took me on a journey to gauge how it can help me as a practical application, also to identify where my learning curve becomes steep, indicating areas that need more time and research, or to put on hold to recapitulate later with new resources.

What surprised me?

It was surprising to experience that programming is the learning of computer language, the same way there are different human languages with various meanings. Having some understanding of how computers are organized to think has had some unanticipated effects on how I think. The philosophical and logical aspects of programming, to a degree, reflect how humans think, speak, negotiate, and argue. Lately I catch myself thinking programmatically, for instance when I ask a question, I have noticed that I tend to semantically leave a "break" for the other person to have an opportunity to leave the "loop", for any reason; that is to avoid the script of conversation, per se, from crashing.

Did I achieve the goals I set out to achieve?

My goals were met in that I feel more comfortable with the level of insight I have now with programming, still have the work resources, and can continue to expand from here. I've more recently learned that I thrive on structured learning (classroom) and some pressure, and this class certainly provided the steps and the confidence I need to continue the trajectory.

Were my expectations met? At the course? What 'programming' means?

Yes, I intend to become more knowledgeable of programming and come back for a certificate to take this to a whole new level. This has been one of the most educational, fun, and enlightening courses, thanks to Dirk and Laura, who complement each other well with their teaching methods. It's been a great time!