What and why – part a

The type of page I’ll be constructing is the portfolio page. As I wade into the IT field, a website built from front to back is a good way to set yourself from the hoards of other applicants competing from the same jobs. Showing front and back-end experience shows versatility. Adding other IT related fields such as other multimedia projects I’ve worked on will only expand the appeal.

Home page content – part b

The purpose of this page is to create a professional portfolio for myself. As I’m nearing the end of my (formal) educational career, I’ll need tools to market myself to potential employers. This website will act as a portal for said employers to look through my achievements and get an idea of who I am. Initially, the website will introduce users with an introductory page. Then, they will get an introduction to who I am; Details about my degree, place of education, and some other personal information. After the introductory pages, we’ll go into a projects/experiences page. Finally, an overarching goals/philosophy page will tie everything together, connecting my past learning experiences to how I will use them in future settings. A contact page with personal information will be present at the end.

About page content – part c

* Written content   
  Hello! I’m originally from Kalamazoo, Michigan, but I’ve been a Columbia, Missouri native for about fourteen years. Currently, I’m pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Information Technology at the University of Missouri. The degree pursued is well rounded, with certificates in Information Systems and Technology, Cybersecurity, and Multimedia Technology and Design. Multimedia has my heart, but I enjoy Cybersecurity as well! Currently, I’m scheduled to graduate in May of 2022.
* Photo

A person with a beard

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Projects/Experience Content – part d

Missouri Bicentennial: Did work creating a promo video for the Missouri Bicentennial celebration.

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Follow flight video – Created a video using Adobe After Effects, editing in a line following a disc through air. This is a technique used in professional disc golf editing.

A group of trees in a snowy area

Description automatically generated with low confidence

Personal reflection page – part e

Growing up, I never had a moment that clicked, “I know what I want to do for the rest of my life!”. High school consisted of mostly going through the motions, assuming I’d go to college, and it would come to me. Often I don’t think I give myself enough credit – I worked throughout high school, and nothing really was handed to me. However, through all that, seeds were sown as for what drives and gives me passion in life today.

Originally in high school, I was enthralled with the Bernie Sanders campaign. It seemed to me as the fastest and most efficient way to help fellow human beings, and improve the human race. However, as time has passed, I’ve soured on national American politics as a primary way to make material improvements in people’s lives. To me, direct local action makes the most sense to do that.

It was at about this time that I moved away from political campaigns that majoring in Information Technology began to make more sense. Political science classes were a struggle for me due to their theoretical nature. IT felt more real and was less anxiety inducing when thinking about the general employment conditions after graduation. However, just focusing on solving the puzzle of an IT issue without looking at the bigger picture of life isn’t fulfilling in the long run.

So, have I found an answer to my initial question growing up? Sure, I have found passions, things I enjoy doing, software I enjoy using. As for a job title I’m pining for? That has yet to materialize. I think in our rapidly changing world, hoping for a specific job to grab and hold for fifty years is naïve. What I would like to do is find something that makes a material difference in people’s lives, while using the competencies learned in school to live in our digital world. Whether that looks like creating a website for a local organization or creating content for an issue I believe in, as long as I’m doing something that incorporates both I’m feeling good.