

Self-Reflection

As a Computer Science undergraduate, the past academic year has been both challenging and rewarding. Through various coursework, projects, and practical experiences, I have developed a stronger understanding of core programming concepts and real-world applications. One of the most valuable aspects of my learning has been hands-on experience through group projects and lab work. Working collaboratively on software development tasks has taught me the importance of communication, time management, and agile practices. Key skills I improved include Python scripting, version control with Git, and agile practices. Additionally, I became more confident in problem-solving by solving challenges on hackerEarth. I also had the opportunity to explore advanced topics such as data science and computer vision, which helped me identify a strong interest in artificial intelligence.

Looking forward, my goal is to build on this foundation by gaining internship experience and participating in more open-source collaborations. I plan to continue improving and expanding my knowledge in areas such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. This reflection has helped me assess my strengths and outline areas for continued growth. I now have a clearer vision of my future as a developer, and I am excited to contribute to innovative software solutions that can make a real difference.

Job Shadowing Experience

During my job shadowing experience at a car rental business, I observed how employees manage customer interactions, reservations, and vehicle logistics. The role required strong communication, professionalism, and attention to detail. I learned how important reliability and customer service are in making operations run smoothly. The experience gave me a clearer picture of what's expected in a fast-paced service environment.

How a Company Hires

From speaking with someone involved in the hiring process at a rental service company, I learned that they prioritize communication skills, professionalism, and a willingness to learn when selecting candidates. They often recruit recent graduates for administrative and customer service roles, using online job boards and internal referrals. Even though experience is appreciated, they focus more on attitude, soft skills, and trainability, which helped me understand what truly makes a candidate stand out.

Informational Interview Reflection

In an informational interview with a professional in the telecom software industry, I gained valuable insight into how technical careers evolve. The conversation highlighted the importance of having a solid foundation in programming and networking, staying curious,

and adapting to new technologies. I learned that being proactive, receptive to feedback, and eager to grow are traits that help young professionals succeed, especially in rapidly evolving fields like tech.

Communication in the Workplace

While observing a small coffee shop, I saw firsthand how effective communication and teamwork contribute to a positive and efficient work environment. Employees collaborated during busy hours, supported one another, and maintained a friendly attitude toward customers. Even under pressure, they stayed professional. This experience emphasized the value of clear communication and adaptability in any workplace setting.

Practical Work Experience

During my work experience at a university, I provided support in both Computer Networks and Database Systems labs, helping students with technical issues and ensuring sessions ran smoothly. I also contributed to administrative tasks, such as coordinating with students, organizing documents, and digitizing exams. This experience strengthened my communication, time management, and troubleshooting skills, while enhancing my proficiency with tools like Cisco Packet Tracer, MySQL, Microsoft Office, and Adobe Acrobat.

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Date: May 23, 2025