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Fullstack Development

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Reflection

This course has given me a much deeper understanding of how full stack applications work as a complete system. I now have hands-on experience building out both the customer-facing and administrative sides of a project, which has shown me the value of coordinating the frontend, backend, and database as a single unit. Walking through each step has helped me understand it by doing not by just reading or researching.

One of the most important takeaways was working with APIs. I learned not only how they connect the different layers of an application, but also how simple they can appear while being responsible for critical functionality behind the scenes. This highlighted for me how vital it is to design secure, well-tested endpoints that handle both expected and unexpected inputs. I was actually taken back how easily they are wired up in something like angular. I knew that api were not the hardest thing, at least the basics I just thought they were a little more complicated using a library.

The course also emphasized the importance of security and testing. Implementing secure login with authentication and authorization gave me a stronger appreciation for how much responsibility comes with protecting user data. Testing endpoints — including thinking about edge cases — gave me the confidence to validate my code against real-world scenarios. I also went beyond the course material by researching additional testing strategies, which has pushed me to think like a professional developer rather than just a student.

Beyond the technical skills, the experience has improved the way I approach problem-solving. The iterative development process —,starting with static HTML, refactoring into templates, creating a RESTful API, building an Angular SPA, and then adding authentication ,mirrored how real software evolves in professional environments. It showed me the importance of planning, version control, and constant refinement. It has also given me a little more of a drive to dive into typescript.

Most importantly, this course has helped me grow in confidence as a developer. It hasn’t just taught me the specific technologies outlined in the modules; it has also shown me how to seek out resources, explore beyond the given material, and push my skills to the next level. These habits will directly support my professional goals and make me a stronger, more marketable candidate as I continue into my career in software engineering.