# CS-499 Module 4 – Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

Erik Wilhelm

erik.wilhelm@snhu.edu

Southern New Hampshire University

Career Path development, have your plans changed, why or why not? Research?

I currently work in my family company with one of my brothers. In 2019, I found that many of the agencies that we often provide bids and do work for were beginning to require engineering degrees (including Computer Science) in order to be eligible for bids. I had been going to school off and on for some time and always wanted to complete my degree so I began the Computer Science program. I do a lot of work integrating equipment into existing networks for various customers as part of my duties so the CS degree was a good fit. I really enjoy learning and gaining new skills so I have tried to study as broad of topics as possible so I chose not to pick a primary focus within the CS degree study. I have taken classes on project development and management, IT, Network Security, and Software development to be as rounded as possible.

I work in construction and there are always ups and downs so I want to have a degree that will help open doors in the future in the event I decide to change career paths. I have researched jobs in Controls and Cabinet manufacturing, Fiber plant technician and designer and other telecom related fields. Because I am currently in a family-based business, I do not foresee changes in my career path so the research has been more of gaining perspective on alternative options, but it has not been extensive. I have created accounts on Indeed and Zip recruiter to stay current with openings in the communications and construction fields as well as what possible employers would look for.

Part Two – Provide an update to your instructor on your progress with each category of artifacts for the ePortfolio:

Software Design/Engineering

This enhancement has been submitted and I have received comments. I have worked to incorporate the comments into my code and assessment and will review once again prior to final submission.

Algorithms and data structures

I have begun working to put together my project and documentation for this project and anticipate submitting the project in module 4 for review. I am enjoying working with the Java programming and data structure setup required to process and show images in my slideshow and feel that this will be a successful artifact to show my skills in java and GUI development. Once my artifact 1 is submitted I plan to directly start working on creating a solid submittal for module 4.

Databases/Datamining

I have downloaded and installed the opensource software that I intend to evaluate the data model from DAT-220 and ensured that it will import. I have periodically watched videos and read documents for using the software. I plan to compete and submit my Enhancement 1 project this week in module 3 and my Enhancement 2 in Module 4. Once these projects are submitted, I plan to work entirely on evaluating the data and creating documentation according to my enhancement plan. Currently I do not anticipate problems completing this project, but I will continue to build on it and working with it leading up to the submittal in module 5.