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Web Development II
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Topic synopsis

My Final Project topic I'd like to explore for this year is "money." Specifically, managing your finances while living in a slowly collapsing economy.

Why it's significant

While there are more general topics I'd like to learn in regards to Web Development and Game Development, that would be more directly beneficial to my long-term career path, I feel like this topic is one worth exploring in the given times.

As a college student without a stable income, going back and forth halfway across the country every semester, it's been hard for me to find a job that sticks for more than a few months. Blemishes on my resume that I think about whenever I try to apply for work. I've had to rely on my parent's money and tax refund checks from the school for this semester, as I got a job quite late last summer.

I know that I'm not the only one struggling for work. Even for just 1 of the few jobs I'd need in order to afford housing in the future, it hasn't been easy. I don't feel like I'm learning many of the necessary skills in order to land a job in my field, even from this class. I feel like my knowledge of Web Development hasn't progressed much since High School, forcing me to work in other fields to raise money, thus decreasing my time to actually hone the skills I'm going to school for.

Whatever form my final project actually takes, I'd like to keep this theme consistent. It's all I've been able to think about for a long while now, and I don't see that changing any time soon.

Research artifact

Several articles about how the current financial crisis affects the everyday life of Americans have been written. From rising food costs, to losing affordable housing and healthcare, to the amount of work the average citizen has had to take up just to be able to get by. Here are some examples.

[Article 1](#)

[Article 2](#)

[Article 3](#)

What am I hoping to learn

What I'm most hoping to learn from using this topic as the basis for my final project, is not necessarily about the topic itself. While I'll naturally be doing research regarding its specifics, the part I'm most interested in learning is the process in adapting this theme into a website. (Or, to be more blunt, into an interactive element, as that will almost certainly be featured into my final project, regardless of what form it takes.)

I'm very invested in how difficult themes and questions can become the basis of interactive storytelling, and even more so, creating interactive experiences using mediums that aren't typically used for such things. In this case, a website. Stories like this have changed not only my life, but the lives of millions of people all across the world. I hope to gain the knowledge to have that same impact someday.