

Reflection

Truth be told, my feeling about programming is quite of a mess. It is a practice that I briefly grazed upon multiple times during the past few years of my life. Yes, I've tried experiencing programming multiple times before this class and no, almost none of them really landed in the long run. I really do not know why that kept happening, but I did decide I'll let this class be another attempt (and hopefully successful) at it.

On the one hand, I really enjoy the thrill of breaking down complicated objectives into simple chunks of interlocked logic and processes. Also, I love the pure satisfaction of creating seemingly complicated visual elements using nothing but a few line codes, or inversely, spending a lot of time and non-functional codes trying to figure out how a simple task could be implemented. Most importantly, I think learning programming really gave me a more critical outlook on all the banal things that surround our daily lives, especially in video games where I would start reflecting upon what sorts of coding would likely be required to create the simplest of mechanics.

On the other hand, the most challenging thing that I can think of, which is also something inevitable once we really dive into coding, is the sheer scale and size of things. I know that at my current level, the length of the program/ simulations is basically nothing compared to those monstrous projects I will encounter in the future, but at times, simply looking at the codes (especially if they are not functioning) gives me a headache. I have no idea why but I sort of dislike the idea of a code that's too long and cumbersome (even if it is required); I just feel like it could always be optimized and kept concise in a way. I believe that mentality is what made me gave up on my very first run-ins with programming: I simply became too "tired" once I really start digging into it.

Though the “default” response for something that I felt proud of would of course be in the lines of “I felt proud of [insert project name here]”, I think my answer is more simple and general. I simply felt proud about being able to get back into programming in somewhat of a decent shape (I know). There are also a few bad habits in terms of programming that I managed to get rid of thanks to this class which I’m really delighted with. If I must pick one specific thing for this question, I would say that it would be the hitboxes in the earlier exercises.

Lastly, my vision of the future is simple: I want to keep going down this route without abandoning halfway through (again) despite all the nuisances, all the difficulties and no matter how slow progress might be. Yes, it is not as grandiose or ambitious as one could have thought, but I feel like this is the ONE thing I need to archive in order to really learn this practice.