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Critical Introduction

Throughout the semester, I faced four distinct challenges that shaped my learning. Firstly, sourcing a definitive ACM citation rule documentation proved elusive initially. Persistent research, consultations with instructors, and leveraging academic resources eventually led to an understanding of ACM citation guidelines. Selecting a research topic for my final report posed another significant challenge. Overcoming this involved extensive literature reviews, consultations with professors, and collaborative discussions with peers. This process ultimately refined my focus and resulted in the identification of a compelling research topic. Learning HTML and CSS for website creation presented a technical hurdle. Through trial and error, online tutorials, and community support, I acquired the necessary skills. Incorporating a PDF viewer became a creative solution, showcasing adaptability in overcoming technical challenges. Lastly, time management emerged as an ongoing struggle. Balancing multiple tasks necessitated a structured schedule, prioritization, and the use of project management tools. This approach significantly improved efficiency and helped overcome time-related challenges.

I have opted not make any revisions on my final project because I spent a substantial amount of time working on it and am proud of the work I have done on it.

After reviewing my discourse community project, I feel that the information is well organized and encompasses what the software development discourse community is about, so I have opted not to revise it.

For my Disciplinary Research Memo, I decided to get rid of the bulleted list in the memo to ensure that all of the content looked cohesive. I also simplified what was on the list to make the memo less overwhelming with content.

There were a couple different revisions I made to my Annotated Bibliography. The number of citations that I used changed in my research report. I also used some citations in ways that I did not originally intend, so I made a couple entirely new citations, and some were revised slightly.

A revision I decided to make on my Public Service Announcement was showing who within my discourse community the infographic was from. I decided on ISACA which is the “Information Systems Audit and Control Association” because they often create infographics aimed at college students that are about emerging technology and what there is to worry about with the new technology.

I also would like to note that I made a major revision of the website in order for it to be able to contain my entire portfolio. I did this by stack multiple pdf viewers and creating a table of contents with links that take you up and down the page the viewer wishes.

Some of my strengths that helped me get through this class would be coding and creativity. My prior coding knowledge in Python and Java helped me learn how to write in the languages used for websites known as HTML and CSS. If I did not have that prior knowledge,

this project may have taken many more months to complete. My creativity shines in both my PSA infographic and website. Creating the PSA graphic, I used visualization of nuclear fallout to play on the “doom” part of doomscrolling in order to effectively communicate the information. In the website design, I blend colors and imagery for an inviting user experience. I strategically organized elements using HTML and CSS for seamless information flow, and my content employs compelling language. Overall, my creative approach enhances both parts of my portfolio.

Some of my weaknesses are word counts and procrastination. In addressing my weaknesses, I've recognized that managing word counts effectively requires a strategic approach. I've started breaking down my writing tasks into smaller, more manageable sections and setting specific goals for daily or hourly word counts. Additionally, I've embraced the use of writing tools that provide real-time feedback, helping me stay on track and motivated. I've also set alarms and reminders to regularly assess my progress, ensuring that I meet my writing targets. Regarding procrastination, I've adopted several strategies to overcome this challenge. Breaking tasks into smaller steps has proven effective, making the workload seem less overwhelming and more achievable. By establishing realistic deadlines, I've created a sense of urgency that serves as a powerful antidote to procrastination. Identifying and addressing underlying issues, such as fear of failure or unclear goals, has been crucial in tackling the root causes of my procrastination tendencies.

This semester, I've gained valuable skills in disciplinary writing, particularly in ACM citations used in computer science. Understanding diverse writing styles across disciplines has

broadened my adaptability as a communicator. Additionally, I've honed my academic writing, including clear articulation, effective structuring, and proper citation. These skills not only enhance my academic performance but also lay the foundation for success in professional and research settings. Moving forward, I intend to apply my proficiency in ACM citations and varied writing styles in both academic and career pursuits, confident that these skills will contribute to my growth as a versatile and impactful communicator.

This portfolio highlights my abilities as a disciplinary writer in computer science, encompassing a research report on social media addiction and a visually impactful PSA on "the dangers of doomscrolling." The research report, presented through a website, showcases my proficiency in translating complex technical concepts into accessible content, blending research dedication with web development skills. Additionally, the PSA, designed in Canva with a nuclear fallout theme, underscores my creative approach to addressing contemporary issues, demonstrating a keen ability to visually communicate serious messages in an engaging manner. This combination positions me as a versatile writer who can effectively convey technical information and captivate audiences through visually compelling and thematic content.