Exercise 08: Reflection

A lot of what I wrote here is going to sound like I am trying to overly praise this course, but I wrote it with the utmost sincerity.

Although I did have some experience with coding in Javascript (and even p5, to a much lesser extent) prior to this course, I was mostly used to coding in a web-based environment. To me, code was a tool, one that I used to add simple animations or interactivity to my websites and that I didn't particularly enjoy. Getting to the Javascript part of a project was always somewhat dauting to me.

That has completely changed with this course. It made me realise that code did not have to be a strictly practical tool, but that it could also be a means for artistic expression. I enjoy this aspect of coding much more than what I used to do before.

I think that this course has really helped me see the potential of programming as an art medium. I found out that I like making games, coming up with concepts (even though they might not be extremely original yet), and figuring out how to turn those concepts into code.

I am proud of the progress I have made in this course. As others have said in class, I also feel as though I made considerable progress in a fairly short amount of time. I was able to create a mid-term project that I was truly proud of and even find some pride in the exercises as I was taking them what I felt was a bit further than required. Even though it is not yet completed, I am also proud of my final project and of the progress I have made on it so far. I think I should be able to deliver a project of great quality if I maintain the level of effort I have put on it up to this point.

One of the reasons I came to the Computation Arts program is because, after a CÉGEP program where I touched on web design, web coding, 3D animation and other digital practices, I still had no idea of what direction I wanted to head in. In fact, one of the only criteria I had was that I didn't want to pursue programming as a career. Now, at the end of my first term in university, I can safely say that this course was by far the one I had the most fun in and that I am currently considering a programming career, which I never would have thought possible just a few months ago.