

BSIS Program Review Part 2

The Bachelor of Science in Information Science program has provided me with a fairly strong foundation for my future career in software engineering. Reflecting on the courses I've completed, two assignments in particular stood out to me as being incredibly valuable for my future career: a research study analyzing the correlation between Google searches for "recession" and actual economic downturns, and a project where I developed a personal portfolio website using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

The first assignment was conducted during my coursework in my Advanced Statistics and Analytics. I researched and explored the concept of whether spikes in Google searches for the term "recession" could serve as an early indicator of actual economic recessions. The concept of recession and recession indicators led me down this path for this assignment, and it was a great way to explore my personal interests. This assignment helped teach me how to approach complex problems analytically and helped improve my ability to communicate discoveries through data analysis. This experience will undoubtedly benefit my future career, particularly when I am faced with challenges involving interpreting data and predicting future outcomes based on indicators.

The second noteworthy assignment to me was from a WWW Page Design/Management course, where I created a portfolio site using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. While this project did not result in my actual portfolio site, much of the content I created for this assignment did find its way into my real portfolio site. This project significantly boosted my practical skills in front-end web development, as well as my ability to communicate my personal accomplishments and goals. Building this portfolio allowed me to showcase my projects and technical abilities creatively, which I believe is incredibly important to demonstrate competence and

professionalism to potential future employers. Additionally, this experience deepened my understanding of responsive design and design principles, all of which are obviously very relevant to my career as a software engineer.

Ultimately, these assignments have contributed deeply to my readiness for a career in information-related fields. While in my case it was software engineering, I have no doubt that these projects help in preparing for any information related field. The skills and insights gained from the research project on recession-related Google searches and the hands-on experience of developing a portfolio website not only match with the demands of the tech industry but have also enhanced my own personal confidence and preparedness. As I approach graduation, these experiences have helped build and prepare my fundamental skills for success in my career.