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CMPT 390

Senior Portfolio

* CMPT 202 – Lab 11 – “Out of Sorts”

This was the first real computer science class I took at Westminster that was really hands on with writing Java code. Before CMPT 202 I had only one other class online where I learned basic Java coding. Lab 11 really embraced the learning goal of Westminster: *Critical, Analytical and Integrative thinking*. This assignment assembled the complex world of sorts: insertion, selection, and time sorts. Sorts were something I struggled pretty aggressively with. It wasn’t until I spent several hours working through the assignment line by line, translating each line into pseudo code, did I really understand it.

* CMPT 307 - GrifSpot Database Project – Databases

My first semester at Westminster I took Dan Byrne’s Database class. I was lucky because it helped me understand the teaching style of professors at Westminster. Questions are always welcome, and those who sit quietly miss out. This class helped me better *understand the components of a contemporary computer system* and how they can effectively work with databases. We were tasked with developing not only a database as a group, but a project that would be supported by that database. Having worked on Google’s FieldTrip app before coming to Westminster, we decided to build a smaller version of FieldTrip specific to Westminster students unfamiliar with the Sugar House area. Our application, GrifSpot, was built in the Play framework and used geolocation to help students find interesting things to do in the area.

* CMPT 322 - Storybook Road - Software Engineering

Software engineering really encouraged my writing paired with other communication skills combined with creative and reflective capacities all the while building a better project through collaboration and teamwork.

Our project, Storybook Road, aimed to teach elementary student to read through the use of storytelling. Bright colors, fun animations, and an algorithm that continually generated new stories, the project was definitely marked as a success at the end of my time at Westminster. If we’d had more time, the team agreed we should have implemented speech software to say the words the students would need to spell, but we are happy with our current version which uses images.

* CMPT 375 - MyCarAttendant.com – Ecommerce

The website group assignment in Ecommerce taught me to not only build a website but also how develop the documentation necessary to start and run a business. I worked with two other team members and it became quickly apparent that leadership, collaboration, and teamwork were necessary to complete the project to our standards. The idea was a service, like Uber, but for your vehicle’s maintenance. We used Wix to build out site, and it turned out very well. The group struggled with accountability and communication, but in the end patient won out and we were able to complete the project on time.

* CMPT 390 - Frameable.org - Senior Capstone Project

My project was a website that encouraged users to take images out of the cloud and print and save them in a quality frame. I’m proud that I was able to come up with an idea not only for CMPT 385, but through a series of miscalculations and improper scoping, ultimately come out on top. This project taught me a deeper background in software development (specifically in Python and JavaScript) and how to more effectively project management working as an individual contributor to my own project. In other projects the work was shared among other departments or team mates, where as this project required me to wear all the necessary hats.

* CMPT 400 – TEGNA Internship

In the summer of 2015, I secured an internship with TEGNA in Seattle at the NBC affiliate, King 5 Broadcasting. I worked in the digital media department for Mark Briggs. I was tasked by both the President of the station, Ray Heacox, and Mark to develop a product to leverage the 30 some odd years of content collecting dust in the basement of King 5’s film vaults. I came up with the idea for an app that encouraged people to plan out their events with their friends through an app centering around commitment. In or Out, Seattle? Took a fun look at the city and it’s many activities and packaged them in an accessible UI.

This project allowed me to better understand the concepts and processes necessary for achieving organizational goals with information technology. Having little experience with the mass media, I really leveraged my creative side and people skills to build bridges between departments.