

nagAI: Self-Reflection & Peer Assessment

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Self-Reflection

Having previously taken CSE 316 and completed a frontend internship, I was familiar with core web development concepts. However, CSE 416 pushed me further, as it required integrating our collective knowledge to build a complex, AI-driven, marketable application alongside thorough documentation and frequent presentations.

Throughout the project, our team faced various challenges: disagreements, communication gaps, CSS issues, Git conflicts, and unexpected deployment bugs. Many late nights went into creating, debugging, and preparing for milestone presentations, often down to the wire.

Reflecting on this, the pressure and emotional cycles closely mirrored the realities of software engineering in industry settings. Early casual brainstorming evolved into structured plans, mockups, API tests, and fully functional prototypes. We established effective communication via Kakao, Discord meetings, Jira task management, and learned critical lessons in Git collaboration.

Personally, my main shortcomings were communication and time management. With varying levels of experience among team members, my explanations weren't always clear or patient, causing frustration. Additionally, balancing other coursework made it challenging to meet some commitments. Ultimately, the experience highlighted the importance of precise time management and clearer communication, lessons I will carry forward into future projects.

Peer Assessment

I served as the informal project manager, having initially proposed nagAI and recruiting Jiwoo and Joohyoung, whom I knew personally. Our weekly meetings were productive, addressing detailed feature designs and implementation strategies.

Jiwoo and Joohyoung were consistently cooperative, helping complete time-consuming tasks such as setting up our Supabase project and adding notifications/alert functionality (Jiwoo), setting up the SQLAlchemy-Pydantic ORM for the database and drafting table schemas (Joohyoung), as well as adding motion animations, integrating the webcam feed, implementing widescreen mode, and creating core frontend pages including the Login Page, Terms & Conditions Page, Focus Log, and Distractions Log (both Jiwoo and Joohyoung). Their contributions, particularly in frontend development and partially in backend development, were greatly appreciated.

However, because their contributions were not fully polished or integrated (such as bugs, syntax errors, and inconsistent capitalization and conventions), I often had to take their near-complete pieces, merge them on Git, refactor the code, test everything thoroughly, and ensure all components worked seamlessly together.

Given our heavy coursework and the understandable challenges we all faced, it's fair to acknowledge that none of us perfectly met expectations or deadlines consistently. Thus, rather than pointing fingers, it's more appropriate to recognize everyone's efforts and challenges. I'd give all team members, including myself, an 8 out of 10 rating, reflecting our collective strengths and areas for improvement.