Jessica LeDoux

CS-499 Computer Science Capstone

10/01/25

Module 4-1

Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

Part One:

1. Have you changed your career plans? If so, what prompted this change? If not, why have you remained with your original plan?
   * When I originally started school all the way back in 2007, I could not decide what I wanted to major in. So originally, I started with just taking classes hoping that a general education class would hopefully pique my interest enough to help move me down a career path. I have always liked computers, art, math, and tried many different courses and ended up getting an art degree. After realizing that it was not providing the financial security I needed, I decided to go back to school and pursue a degree in software engineering. That is where I currently am in my career journey.
2. How has your thinking about your career evolved?
   * I always knew that complex ideas went into applications and websites, but almost the illusion of the ‘peaking behind the curtain’ and seeing what is behind has shown all the way that technology is used throughout everyday life. Like in things we take for granted or when we do normal activities and use ‘algorithms’ or ‘databases’ and not even realize that is what we are using. I think it is fascinating how technology is changing the lives of everyday people, and I hope to help us to better the world.
3. Have you completed any research about your choice of career? How has this impacted your thinking? Have you thought about seeking an advanced degree or certification after earning your undergraduate degree?
   * I want to use technology as a way of changing the trajectory of some of the issues facing the world. Climate change, food insecurity, and global conflicts are major problems that I think technology could address and I think the best way is to empower the people and use technology to change the everyday person’s outcome and have that bloom outwards to affect things outwards like branches of a tree. So, anything that can help move those ideas along is something I look forward to helping with.
4. Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?
   * I think I have moved forward on most, but I have not completed many more than the last update as I am struggling with getting some of the security features in my application to run as intended. I want to make it so that only admins have access to certain areas and I have issues with a general user having access and then when limiting it, I keep making an error, so I am troubleshooting that problem and hope to have a solution this week.

Part Two:

Provide an update to your instructor on your progress with each category of artifacts for the ePortfolio:

* Software design and engineering
* Algorithms and data structures
* Databases

I have been continuing on with the application for CS-360, as stated above I am adding a security feature to limit the who has access to what parts of the application to show how the security would work but I am having some issues with it and have be troubleshooting some solutions and I think I am moving towards a solution. I have been working on my third enhancement and realized that I was working on a simple sports trading card spreadsheet for my brothers collection and the more I work on it I want to make it to something by adding all the items of these together and maybe work towards something of putting all three together to show how I have brought all the things I learned into one idea because I did not even realize this was something that I could do or was doing until I started seeing things and the ease of which you can change and add to things to better use technology to help your life.