

Future Career Aspirations and Goals Essay

Justin Stutler

University of South Florida

LIS: 4934 Senior Capstone

Dr. Richard Austin

February 1, 2024

Introduction

I am a student of Information Science at USF with a concentration in Web Development. I worked as a web developer during an internship I had while studying Computer Science at KSU prior to USF. My studies at USF are closely related to my current career aspirations of working in web development. I stumbled upon web development through my internship, and I knew I wanted to continue to work in the field if possible after my internship experience ended.

Interest

I originally gained interest in coding from my interest in wanting to build video games. After discovering that the job of game developer comes with many issues, I decided to continue searching for a career path that is more in line with my values. The game industry is notorious for overworking game developers, significantly underpaying them, and generally having toxic work environments involving prejudice. After discovering this, I decided to try looking for a different job involving coding that has better pay and working conditions. I studied computer science at KSU where I learned that there are many more careers involving coding than just game developer. My top interests within computer science were data science, artificial intelligence, and web development, so working within one of these fields became of interest to me. When I transferred to USF, I decided to specialize my education by studying information science and chose a concentration of data science before switching to web development.

Career Aspirations

I am open minded at this point to my career aspirations. I enjoyed my internship experience working in web development, and I would return to the industry if given the chance to, but I also am willing to work in a variety of fields. Studying technology in college has taught me that I am able to learn and adapt to things enough so that I believe I could work in almost any part of the tech sector. There are many jobs I could see myself working in such as web development, data science, AI, cybersecurity, database management etc. Although, I do believe it is most likely that I will end up working in web development.

Factors in my Decision

I chose my career path based on a few factors. The main factor was interest, and I have always had interest in technology. A job that won't bore me is important to me. Another factor is the working conditions. The ability to work remotely while making a decent wage is important to me. Also, a work-life balance or a job that is not overly demanding is important to me because I value my free time. I believe working in tech will allow for a flexible life where I can travel which is also something I want to do.

Conclusion

I plan to graduate USF and begin my career working in tech. I have not utilized USF's career services website, but I have utilized the job fairs at USF. I will continue to utilize these resources as well as handshake and networking to achieve this goal.