**8-2 Journal:**

Portfolio Reflection

Looking back to my earlier coding projects, I left security to the end. This created a bunch of work that wound up bogging down my projects. I also know in my rush, I missed covering many vulnerabilities. After taking this course I understand how easy it is to place protections against very common attack methods and will be implementing them in all future projects. Additionally, upon reflection I can see how this would create a larger cost to my future employers. Where as a student it costa few points on an assignment or used up more of my own time, this cost will be greatly different in the future.

Evaluating the cost of risk and mitigating factors has given me more insight into how this can impact myself, and future employers. Another issue that I greatly underestimated in past programs was the lack of Zero Trust implementation. I allowed users direct access to important variables and functions with no input protections. Seeing as how this can be exploited, I will be implementing Zero Trust policies moving forward and advocating them in situations where they are not being used.

On the facet of implementation and recommendation of security policies, I have learned a massive amount about this topic. Creation of a security policy requires foresight into what the project will entail and common pitfalls of older coding standards. Staying up to date with the latest recommendations from security experts and the latest documentation from the SEI CERT security reference is extremely important to my future, both as a future designer and developer.