

Laisha Ramos

CS499

3/29/2024

#### Journal 4

My journey into the realm of computer science and software engineering began in the fall of 2021, marking a significant turning point in my personal and professional life. The initial exposure to this field during my biology studies sparked a deep fascination within me. As I delved into two of my computer science classes, I found myself captivated by the intricacies of coding, problem-solving, and the boundless potential for innovation. This newfound passion led me to make the decision to switch schools and change my major.

At Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU), I've found an incredibly supportive community that has made this transition smoother. While pursuing my bachelor's degree in computer science and minoring in software engineering, I've been actively engaged in software development projects as part of my degree program. From developing apps to creating games, these hands-on experiences have provided me with invaluable insights into the software development process and have further fueled my passion for the field.

My thinking about my career has evolved significantly since embarking on this journey. Initially, I viewed my career in the world of biology. However, as I've progressed, I've realized the broader potential for innovation and impact within computer science to apply technical skills to biological research or software development. I've come to understand that computer science is not just about writing code; it's about leveraging technology to solve complex problems and improve lives. This realization has broadened my career aspirations beyond a specific field, opening possibilities in various industries where technology plays a crucial role.

Through my coursework and personal research, I've gained insights into various career paths within computer science and software engineering. I've explored topics such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and data science, which have expanded my understanding of the field and influenced my career goals. I am particularly interested in data analysis and data science, seeing the potential to leverage data to drive insights and innovation in various industries. However, I remain open to opportunities in any area related to computer science, as I believe each presents unique challenges and opportunities for growth.

Moreover, my background in biology, culminating in an associate degree, provides me with a unique perspective and skill set that I can apply to my future endeavors in computer science and software engineering. The analytical thinking and problem-solving skills honed during my biology studies complement my technical knowledge and further enhance my capabilities in this field.

While I haven't decided on pursuing an advanced degree or certification yet, it's something I'm considering to further specialize in the field of data science. The prospect of diving deeper into data analysis techniques and advanced statistical methods excites me, as I see it to contribute meaningfully to the growing field of data-driven decision-making.

Overall, my journey in computer science and software engineering has been a transformative experience. From the initial spark of curiosity to the exploration of diverse career paths, I've grown both personally and professionally. While challenges lie ahead, I am confident that my passion for technology, coupled with my diverse background, will guide me towards a fulfilling and impactful career in the field.

Lastly, I currently found myself to be at checkpoint four with category one, which I am in the process of uploading it to my ePortfolio. Regarding category two, I am currently at checkpoint three.