**Capstone: Professional Self-Assessment**  
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Graduating with a degree in Computer Science has been both a challenging and deeply rewarding experience which has provided me with a strong foundation in software development and the confidence to take on real-world projects. When I look back at the range of courses I completed and the skills I’ve developed, I am eager to enter the field with both technical knowledge and practical experience. My ePortfolio showcases this journey and growth, especially through the Inventory Management App I built, which highlights what I believe are some of my strongest skills and my approach to creating applications that are functional, secure, and easy to use.

My capstone project, which focused on improving my Inventory Management App completed in a prior course, demonstrates how I can bring all the pieces I’ve learned together and apply them to a tangible application. I aimed to create an app that could go beyond just managing inventory and actually deliver a smooth, user-friendly experience as well. For example, by adding indexing to commonly queried fields like item names and stock numbers, I significantly improved the app's efficiency. This project also gave me the chance to engage in defensive programming strategies and implement better error handling, skills that I was introduced to early on in my degree journey. These skills were crucial in making my app run smoothly and reliably, and they have affirmed by belief in the importance of planning for potential issues early on in development.

Throughout this program, I’ve learned that collaborating with others and managing projects is as important as the technical skills themselves. Earlier courses introduced me to version control, Git workflows, and communicating ideas with teammates, which has helped me learn the value of clear communication and collaboration. It’s one thing to have ideas of your own, but sharing them effectively and working together streamlines the development process and ensures much better results. The skills I picked up at SNHU became essential as I worked to improve my capstone app, ensuring my changes aligned with a vision that I could share and also communicate with others.

Designing software with security in mind became another key area of focus for me. My coursework introduced me to critical security practices, which I then applied to the Inventory App by implementing a secure login feature. Recognizing the significance of safeguarding user data, I’m committed to continuously growing my knowledge of security measures like encryption and user authentication. It’s satisfying to know that I am developing applications that not only perform well, but also respect and protect user privacy.

Every course I completed added a different layer to my skills, and even though at times it felt as though I was spread thinly across the course concepts, the capstone project showed me how these skills come together. Learning data structures and algorithms provided the backbone for efficient data handling in my app, while application development course experience gave me a strong start with object-oriented programming principles that have made my code more organized and modular. These fundamentals will now be woven into everything I build.

My ePortfolio’s main artifact, the Inventory Management App, demonstrates how all these elements have come together to create a cohesive and reliable project. By incorporating database management, security features, user-friendly interfaces, and solid error handling, the app shows what I value most in software development: performance, usability, and security. It’s been rewarding to watch this project grow from a simple application into one that I can proudly present as an example of my work.

Overall, my ePortfolio reflects not just my skills but my professional goals, which are to develop applications that solve real problems in a way that’s intuitive for users and maintains their trust. I’m excited to keep growing, to learn more about emerging technologies, and to apply what I know to new challenges in software development. This program has been my foundation, and I’m looking forward to building on it in the years to come.