

CS 470 Final Reflection

CS 470 23EW6

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Link to my final presentation

<https://youtu.be/t9qoxLj52rk>

Web development has definitely always been my least favorite type of development. What this class did for me was help me see how much better modern tools for web development are and how intuitive and interesting they can be. Developing on AWS was much a much better experience than developing our MEAN stack site last term, and I learned a lot about how web services are hosted. I think having the broad experience of developing a static and modular site on both local host and serverless environments will help me market myself to employers.

As a developer, I think my biggest strength is understanding the finer details of how coding functions. I'm not the kind of person who's okay with hand-waving, and I always want to understand the underlying functionality of complex coding solutions. In a new job, I would be very prepared to take on simple debugging and development tasks. I'm particularly good at debugging, having a lot of experience tutoring other students and reading existing codebases for issues.

In this course we went over a lot of the benefits and risks of using a serverless hosting environment. The biggest two, as described in my presentation, are elasticity and the pay-for-service model. Having a service that can handle any number of requests, large or small, and only having to pay for what you use can make a project highly scalable. The difficulty comes in preparing for the potential costs, error handling and security risks that come with a sudden spike in users. You can do things to limit these factors, but it's a risk inherent to using AWS' microservices.

In the end, as with all development tools, you have to examine the specific needs of your project to determine whether a serverless environment is the best solution. If what you need is a highly scalable, simply set up site with little management then AWS might be the right solution for your project.