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Reflection Essay

Website Link: <https://html.luddy.indiana.edu/~megmcmul/finalproject-mcmullen-meg/index.html>

I am sooo proud of my ability to use javascript for this project. I wasn’t confident with it going into the project, but I ended up having 3 elements: the modal for the design process, the character creation divs, and the gallery. The modal and gallery were provided in class and only took a bit of tweaking, but I ended up meshing a few different ideas from W3Schools to make the character creation divs work. My issue was that I had 3 images that I wanted to replace each other depending on which button was pressed. It was tricky and I even had my boyfriend look over it to help since my tired eyes weren’t as helpful lol. I’m also proud of myself for biting the bullet and making things easier by combining my character img and changing resume icons so that I wouldn’t have to finagle with spacing between the 2. After I made that change, it made the bottom section of the home page so much faster. Holistically, I’m proud of what I was able to do in a rather short amount of time. There are so many little bits here and there that I know I’ll change in the future. For example, I want my character to be animated and make poses when the buttons are clicked. Basically, I want a Sims UI screen lol.

In contrast, the “My Work” page didn’t really go how I had initially planned it. I think my sideways gallery idea would be cool, but I think I’ll implement it next semester when I’ve had a bit more time to work in javascript. I decided to use the modal version we had in class, so that I could spend more time on flex for the Portfolio content below. However, I think the structure of the content ended up looking better than my first page. I really like how the color scheme shines through on this page to highlight the content. Finally, things that just plain did not make it. I’ll be honest, I am a complete perfectionist and I overscope literally every project I come up with. This one was no exception. My navbar disappoints me, but it's functional and looks decent. I really wanted a js navbar that’s all sorts of fancy with links that take you to different parts of the page, but I ran out of time. I’m still planning on adding it down the line, but not for this project.

Overall, I really loved this course and what I was able to accomplish in just a semester. I’ve been a bit timid with programming, but I feel so much more confident now. I think it was a combination of the course structure, Erica’s fantastic teaching, supportive UIs, and my own hard work. I really wish I had taken this earlier in my degree so that I could take on a web development minor. Thank you guys for making this an educational and fun semester!