

Reflection

This course was an excellent culmination for my formal education in computer science. I feel much more confident going into a web development job knowing that I'll be familiar with Amazon Web Service cloud based technologies. My new understanding of containerization and virtualization, S3, Lambda, Gateway, DynamoDB, and IAM will all make me a more marketable candidate for web development jobs, or working with any technology that relies on these services. My strengths as a developer have generally been my ability to solve puzzles and problems without getting too frustrated, but after completing this class, I feel that I can add cloud-based web application architecture to the list, and I feel confident that I can bring these skills into an entry level position in web development.

The benefits of web development on cloud-based technology means that I don't need to worry about handling scale. While cost can be accurately estimated through summing the various costs of S3 storage plans, as well as Lambda and EC2 features, the cost of running cloud-based web applications using Amazon services will always be appropriate in proportionate to the scale of the business being run.

One advantage of running your application off of the cloud is if your business reaches such a scale that maintaining in-house infrastructure and hiring the staff to manage it ends up less expensive. That said, the elasticity that comes with cloud-based technologies makes AWS the right choice for the vast majority of applications.