**Professional Self Assessment**

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Throughout my education at Southern New Hampshire University, while pursuing my Bachelor’s of Science in Computer Science, I have completed many courses in several programming languages. I feel it is a massive advantage when attempting to launch into a new career to have at least a basic understanding of SQL, Java, C++, Python, and R – all of which can be fundamentals that can be built upon over the course of a fruitful career in the field. Through completing these courses, it became clear to me that I could showcase my strengths in the creation of programming logic, which is an area in which I am proud of my accomplishments.

We were not only taught the coding languages, but learned to wield several other tools that are useful in our future careers. We learned how an Agile Software Development Model can increase productivity and user experience at a fast pace, we learned how to collaborate in a team environment between the programmers, testers, stakeholders and product’s owner. On the technical side, we learned how to keep up with the best practices in programming – ensuring that your loops are finite, or have a failsafe, we learned how to create and run algorithms that would iterate through loops in a way that is modular and for a specific purpose, and we learned how to create software and store information in databases in a way that is manageable, not wasteful, and secure for any outsiders who may wish to tamper with our systems.

In taking this course, I have realized that much of my drive for moving into this new career is focused around my desire to automate kitchens to recreate meals by world-class chefs. I realized the potential of the basic codes and algorithms I was creating, and thought about the amount of checks and balances that would need to be created to ensure the best possible product (pH testing, salinity levels, ability to determine freshness of ingredients), and this inspired me to learn more and drive forward in my pursuit of becoming a better programmer.

The artifact is a CSV parser that was created using C++ as the programming language. This parser is meant to take a CSV file and parse the information into a database for future commands to facilitate the expedient retrieval of information. This showcases my learning, and Computer Science ability by demonstrating the amount of value my coding can provide in a program that is not labor-intensive of a computer system, but provides a function that is remarkably useful – especially for running on systems with lower computing power.