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**CS 499 – Journal Entry: Career Reflection and Artifact Progress**  
**Date: 5/28/25**

**Part One: Career Reflection**

I have not changed my career plans since entering the Computer Science program. From the start, I have been interested in becoming a software developer, and that goal has stayed the same. My courses and projects helped me grow more confident in that path. I enjoy building things with code, solving problems, and learning how software can be used to create real-world solutions.

My thinking about my career has grown a lot. At first, I just wanted to learn how to code and build simple programs. Now, I understand the value of writing clean, efficient, and secure code. I’ve also learned that communication, testing, and proper design are just as important as the code itself.

I’ve done some research about what employers want. I’ve seen that they care about projects, experience, and portfolios that show your work. That made me realize how important this ePortfolio is. I’m also thinking about getting a certificate in web development or cloud computing after I graduate to increase my chances of getting a good job.

So far, I’ve completed the work for the Software Design and Engineering and have started on the other categories. I still need to finalize parts of Algorithms/Data Structures and Databases, but progress is going well.

Part Two: Artifact Progress Update

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Checkpoint | Software Design and Engineering | Algorithms and Data Structures | Databases |
| Name of Artifact Used | Craps Game Project | Craps Game Project | Craps Game Project |
| Status of Initial Enhancement | Completed code cleanup, improved naming, separated logic into smaller classes for better structure and readability. | Refactored dice logic, improved condition checks and used structured loops for clarity and maintainability. | Not Started |
| Submission Status | Submitted in Milestone 2 | Submitted in Milestone 3 | Not submitted |
| Status of Final Enhancement | Complete | Minor testing planned to optimize roll logic; adding comments and Javadoc-style notes. | Not Started |
| Uploaded to ePortfolio | Complete | In progress code and explanation uploaded | Not uploaded |
| Status of Finalized ePortfolio | Focused on presentation and alignment to outcomes. | Still refining layout and visuals. Working on summaries that explain my logic clearly to non-technical viewers. | Not Started |