

Rachel Shaw

### 12.3 Reflection Assignment

12/19/2024

The completion of the case study project alongside members of group 2 went, for the most part, relatively smoothly. Although all four of us were available at different times throughout each day, we completed milestones using somewhat of a 'blackboard' methodology, where one of us would upload a portion of the assignment when they were available. Then, someone else would log in later, review it, and make changes. For example, Jason typically only worked on the project in the very early hours of the morning, so he'd submit his version of a document to the Discord server we used to communicate, and when I woke up around 8 or 9 in the morning, I'd review his work and fix any bugs I found before resubmitting my version. All members of my team also got along pretty well. Participation felt, for the most part, evenly split.

While the blackboard structure we fell into worked well throughout most parts of the project, we could have been more organized by assigning different tasks to different team members. Because we did not, we all did the same portion of the project multiple times on our own, which became a little redundant. However, we did naturally fall into roles within the team. Jason usually took the initiative to start the code behind the database and its queries, and I became a tester who would test his code and alter it accordingly. Then, Mark would check behind me later in the day to ensure everything looked good and communicate his feedback. Rachel T. was good at organizing small changes and the formal documentation we had to submit. Then, we'd review the files and give the 'okay' to submit it the next day. We also experienced a few disagreements in the initial stage over what assumptions we would make, what data we would actually need in our database, and on how to configure the database. However, once we got the structure together, things went pretty smoothly from there.

Conclusively, I learned two primary lessons throughout the completion of this project. The first is just how volatile programming projects can be. This is something I've been told repeatedly since I entered this cohort. However, this project allowed me to experience it firsthand as during the completion of milestones 3 and 4, we had to make a significant, time-consuming change to our database and alter our queries to match. This was frustrating, but it served as a great reality check for me. Additionally, I also learned the importance of communication in a programming project. While communication between members of our group went pretty smoothly for most of the project, I could have done better during the completion of milestone 2. I added a bunch of records to the database. I adjusted the registration dates without documenting the changes or mentioning them to the rest of the group because it seemed understandable. However, soon after I made the changes, Mark messaged the group, confused because my query results differed from his. This is why efficient documentation and communication are so important while working in groups; I've always known that, yet I fell short and will do my best not to let it happen again.