

CS 470 Reflection

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gn2yPAXFbuU>

Experiences and Strengths:

Throughout the Full Stack Development II course (CS470) I've gained the technical skills required for a career in cloud application development and an understanding of how to modernize applications to take advantage of cloud services. This experience will make me a better candidate as many companies seek to hire software engineers for their cloud based applications or migrations. Some of the skills I've gained include containerization, working with a serverless architecture and database management and these new skills will make me a more competitive candidate for jobs within the software development sphere. My strengths as a software developer relate primarily to my problem solving abilities and attention to detail that make me great at identifying the root of issues and efficient solutions. Roles I am prepared to assume in a new job include cloud architect, DevOps developer, and full stack developer.

Planning for Growth:

When scaling web applications things like microservices and serverless technologies offer efficiencies that can't be found anywhere else. For scale and error handling, breaking a complex application down into a set of microservices can make identifying and resolving errors much simpler. It also helps cost prediction as resources are only allocated as needed. Similarly, serverless is cost-predictable thanks to its pay-per-execution model. Microservices can be less cost predictable as they have a more diverse nature of workloads and can require consistent monitoring and optimization.

With this in mind, the decision between serverless and microservices comes down to a few factors. Serverless might be the better choice if cost predictability and efficient resource use are most important to you. Alternatively, you might opt for a microservice architecture for a more complex system that requires elasticity for varying traffic/workloads. It's important to realize that there is no one size fits all answer to every problem and you should always consider your specific application's requirements to make the most informed decision between the two.