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Going into this class the only experience I had with programming of any kind was looking over the shoulder of my roommate freshman year, who happened to be a computer science major. Since then I’ve given literally zero thought to coding, and even going into this class didn’t really have any idea that programming would be a component of the course.

It wasn’t exactly a welcome surprise, and just as I suspected I struggled mightily basically every step of the way. My brain just isn’t built for the kind of thinking and logic that programming requires, and even doing the simplest tasks were hugely difficult.

I will say that it was immensely satisfying whenever I did get anything to work, but that was so rare that it’s barely even worth mentioning.

Following along via the book and in class demonstrations, I was vaguely able to reproduce the intended code, but rarely grasping why. That was my biggest issue, even with *Introductory Programming for the Arts and Humanities,* I feel like it didn’t do a great job of breaking down why things worked. Maybe I jut don’t have enough of a background in math/logic, but one of the biggest obstacles I faced was just trying to understand why the things I was typing were doing the things they were doing.

The one area of the programming that we covered that I did enjoy, the textblob sentiment analysis, I was disappointed that we didn’t go into how and why it works. Still, I really did find using textblob to break down texts to be supremely interesting, and I might continue to use it when writing things for future courses.

I do feel like I wasn’t able to devote myself to the programming portion of the course as much as I’d have like to ,or even should have, just on account of all the other things we were doing. Not that it was an overwhelming of work, but more it’s tough to focus on different things in the same class. Switching back between *Ship of Theseus* and the programming portions made it so I couldn’t really focus on both at the same time, and *Ship of Theseus* got prioritized. Still, I do like how the two different sections eventually crossed over, and overall I do feel like the time spent on programming was in the end time well spent.