For: Samuel H Wilson

Assignment: Java II Final: Blackjack

**Design Steps:**

I split my project into three steps.

1. Learn Blackjack: First I found a reliable online guide and wrote a rule breakdown document.
2. Write Blackjack code: Next I wrote a series of interfaces and classes that could simulate cards and carry out the rules of Blackjack.
3. Write Blackjack GUI: Lastly I put together a user interface on top of my Blackjack code.

**Testing Method:**

While writing the Blackjack code I wanted to make sure it worked properly, and I also wanted to make sure I didn’t make changes that broke other features. In order to ensure those two things, I setup testing files that proved my code worked the way I had originally intended. Whenever I was in doubt, I just ran the files.

While working on the GUI, I just tested by playing the game. Best way to find out that something is broken is to have it break out from under you.

**Challenges:**

The main challenge I encountered was my tendency for scope-creep. When I started my network code, I decided to write a large networking framework to assist with some of the more complicated aspects of server client communications. I spent so much time working on this framework, that I ran out of time to work on the actual network code I needed to make the game work.

**Things I learned:**

1. A system of linear phases works really well with event oriented GUI programs. I broke Blackjack into 7 methods, or phases, and used an advancePhase method to switch between them. This worked out to be a fantastic setup.
2. A bottom bar based input system works great.
3. KISS: Keep it Simple, Stupid. I need to start projects from the ground up. By that, I mean I need to start projects by doing the bare minimum required to get them in the air. After that, I can add bells and whistles.

This was a great project to work on. I wish I had kept it simpler in the beginning, and actually wrote the network code. But, all in all, I’m pretty proud of my work.

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| **Screenshot(s)** |
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| **Code** |
| Sorry Ms. Renee. There are honestly too may files to paste here. I have like 9 or 10 source files and a stylesheet. |
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