HUDK 4050 Reflection Essay

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To begin with, I took this course in the beginning of the semester not only because it is a must take in my program of Learning Analytics, But also because that I realized that in this day and age, coding is really one of the most useful techniques that may be required later in my career. Before this course, I knew a little for python and pseudocode back from high school and I also learned about html and javascript in my undergraduate courses.However, I did not remember so much of the knowledge about these coding techniques, so I got a little bit nervous as I wasn’t very sure if I could handle the knowledge that I was going to face in this course. Nevertheless, I still decided to give it a try and see how much knowledge I could absorb from the EDM course. At the end of this semester, I think that my goals didn’t really change, but I was happy that I was able to keep up with the pace of the course and everyone else in the course.

Talking about the things that I have experienced inside the course, I believe that my biggest take-away would be learning actually how to use these codes to deal with problems in the real world. The codes that I have learned back before were dealing with theoretical problems that aren’t so related to real life problems. Back then, if anybody asked me to use coding to deal with some questions in reality, I would probably be really troubled. If it was now, I think that I would have much more confidence in dealing with the problems. What I found most challenging for me was that Professor Liu didn’t really teach very much about actually coding, but rather the logistics behind it. As I have studied pseudocode before, the logic behind it wasn’t actually so challenging for me, but the actually coding was because I could often find bugs that I couldn’t really deal with. After taking the course, I would say that I have not really used the techniques learned in the course for real problems or issues right now, but I am looking forward to these challenges in the future, especially that I might use it in my internship next semester.

Looking forward, I think I am becoming better at coding, but still not the level that I want to get to yet. However, I think this course did open up a door for me that I could explore, in the future I am feeling confident about the other languages that I might potentially learn. Based on the careers that I am exploring right now, I believe that learning Python and a bit of R could actually be quite helping because companies related to finance are in fact pretty interested in people who can also deal with a little bit of coding. As a result of this, despite the fact that there is a quite big possibility that I won’t be really doing jobs directly related to EDM in the future, this engagement will still help me by a great deal in the future process. As a result of this, I think I will be very thankful for the experience of this engagement and these codes that I have learned will help me a great deal.