

Project and Portfolio I: Development

DEV119-O

Section #01

Mission Statement: A Fount of Knowledge Inspired By Nature

Mission:

An avid researcher, compelled to seek all that is hidden, a lover of puzzles; I often share much of what I learn, being called a “fount (font) of knowledge,” by co-workers. Focused on streamlining resources to create a cohesive flow. Empowering other women to embark on a similar career, as I advance my own fate in a world that is wholly dominated by men. By sharing my personal survival experience and always leading by example, my mission is to graduate from Full Sail with a Bachelors Degree in Mobile Development and continue to solidify my own understating of our mobile future with advance degree in Cybersecurity.

🍏 Is your statement still relevant?

Yes and no, I was on quite a different path when I began my first class a Full Sail University on 8/04/2014. I came on board to get my son off the couch and attempt to chart his own course. My interest was in Business Intelligence and was unable to register, because of my prior coursework. I thought that I could get there through Graphic Design, as Software Development was not available online. I was asked about Mobile Development, and my response was next time. I tell you these things, because with that response, I sabotaged by mission before taking my first class.

I took Overview of the Media Design and Technology Industries, which is what I believe you are calling T.E.M. on 9/1/14. Which was prior to receiving my LaunchBox. My Toshiba has crashed twice since then, before moving all of my files over to my MacBook. Unfortunately, my “mission statement,” was still a part of that system. Hopefully to one day be recovered.

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Project and Portfolio I: Development

DEV119-O

Section #01

As far as relevancy, I'm not sure what I had submitted back then. But, if it were relevant I probably would have plastered it on my mirror, framed it on my desk. I found it did little to inspire me.

🍏 **Has anything in your life changed?**

I switch majors from Graphic Design to Mobile Development, and it feels as though everything in my life has reset. I had become disinterested in my class assignments. I felt unfulfilled when telling others what I had aspired to do; I could not even convince myself to continue. I was miserable. I began to feel as if I were a failure.

After shifting gears, I began to feel uplifted and encouraged others to follow suit, sharing the possibilities for financial stability in an unstable economy. Three of my students have now enrolled in a technical program with one more pending. I do this because I know what it is like to live off fewer than ten thousand a year and still survive. I have discovered that all I had been doing was surviving. So did many of these women, and it is up to us to change our situations for ourselves.

🍏 **Has your approach to tackling issues and succeeding changed?**

Not really, I believe that over time I realized that "I am the music maker and I am the dreamer of the dream," it all starts with me. I have wasted too much time second-guessing myself. Finishing tasks even if I truly did not want to continue, and in the end get pushed out. I no longer allow others to navigate for me. I weigh the pros and cons, and make decisions based on the desired outcome, either for myself, or whomever I am creating the deliverables for. "Eating the elephant, one bite at a time," though "slow and steady" might also do the trick, especially as it relates to code.

Project and Portfolio I: Development

DEV119-0

Section #01

🍏 **Has what you have learned changed any of your personal goals or professional goals?**

Well, only to the extent that I realize that I will fight for what I truly believe in. When I feel as though I am being back in a corner, I push back more than I had done in my youth. The more that I learn about code, the more I want to learn. That was not the case in Graphic Design. However, “nature” is the force that grounds me and gives me clarity.

Tackling this mission statement project, I realized that I didn’t need to alter the mission that I had working in the projects, inspiring women to be proactive, and to be their child’s first teacher. This project reminded me that I desire to encourage woman to look pass mediocrity and aspire to do great things for themselves and their families.

According to Huffington Post Tech, “[The Stats On Women In Tech Are Actually Getting Worse](#)” as the percentage of women in computer field have actually fallen over the last 23 years. Companies like [ACSA, CRA-W, and Hewlett Packard Enterprise Announce Scholarship for Women in Information Security](#) and [Microsoft Bridging the Gender Gap: Growing the Next Generation of Women in Computing](#) as they begin their ground game. According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics which predicts that “by 2018 there will be 1.4 million open technology jobs in the United States and, at the current rate of students graduating with degrees in computer science, only 61% of those openings will be filled—and just 29% of applicants will be women.” I truly did not see as much support in graphic design as I do in S.T.E.M. fields. I do believe that I am finally proceeding down the right path.

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🍏 Where are you on your journey?

This journey is truly just the beginning for me. I took my first SDI class, which means that this has been my first class after my initial coding experience. I'm revisiting the course content and relying on Lynda.com, while bookmarking MOOCs and other resource to be used at a later date as to not to overwhelm myself.