For the jobs I want immediately after I graduate college, I primarily need to continue developing my skills in object-oriented programming languages such as Java and C++. I can do this both by continuing to take classes that develop these skills, and by independently working on projects using one of these languages. I need experience with the software development life cycle, which I am learning about currently in my IT 261 course, and which I’ll use in future projects. I need to gain familiarity with Agile software development methodologies; I have learned about the concept in my current courses, but I should also take further courses that will give me a stronger understanding of it.

The more advanced jobs are much more specific about the required technology skills. As with the entry level jobs, I need to learn about the software development life cycle and Agile software development. Furthermore, I need to gain experience in SQL, which I could either do independently, in the course of my job, or by taking IT 378. Competence in front-end frameworks is required; I already began studying JavaScript, CSS, and Bootstrap online (using Code Academy) over the summer. In general, I will learn any technologies or concepts required by an intermediate level job in one of three ways: I will learn it in a course at ISU, learn it as part of my training in an internship or entry level job, or teach myself the concept independently. In general, I will probably use a combination of all three techniques. Classes at ISU will give me a structured learning environment and motivation to learn, but won’t go as in-depth into specific topics due to time constraints. Learning in an early job is a good way to get practical experience, but usually jobs will require me to use the skills that I had when they hired me. Independently learning is the most difficult, due to both the necessity of finding my own resources and the lack of external pressure to learn; however, it will give me the opportunity to further develop skills I couldn’t learn elsewhere.

Entry Level Jobs:

<http://jobs.jobvite.com/careers/adagetechnologies/job/ohpQ3fwj?__jvst=Job%20Board&__jvsd=Indeed>

<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/199606662>

<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/200493821>

Jobs requiring experience:

<http://jobview.monster.com/java-developer-internet-of-things-job-chicago-il-il-us-171316133.aspx?mescoid=1500127001001&jobPosition=1>

<http://jobview.monster.com/sr-java-developer-602-job-chicago-il-us-172065693.aspx?mescoid=1500127001001&jobPosition=1>

<http://jobview.monster.com/senior-java-developer-job-chicago-il-us-171350956.aspx?mescoid=1500127001001&jobPosition=1>