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Individual Reflective Essay

This module hit my expectations regarding the content and the learning experience. I have participated in 3 projects during this module. Working in these projects made me realize what real life working situation will be. I gained experiences, friendships, and skills and faced some challenges.

First project was developing a calculator app in pairs which was my first time collaborating with another partner in a software engineering task. During this project, I developed time management ,collaboration and communications skills as well as I learned a new language to work with as during my first 2 years I was using JAVA to work on my tasks but this time I had to learn a new language which is Python which was challenging at first because I was used to JAVA but leaving my comfort zone for once made me realize that learning new language was beneficial to me.

I really enjoyed working in pairs as my partner was very helpful and organized. Communication played a vital role in this project as we divided the tasks evenly in which I will be doing half the task which was developing half the functions with their Unit Test cases and CI workflow in which allowed us to finish the project 5 days earlier and gave us time to test it for bugs and modification.

Second project was developing a calculator web app which was my first time working on developing a web app with group of 5 people. It was challenging this time as we had to use Docker to containerize the web app and frontend for the external structure of the app. I always love to challenge myself during these situations as when we were dividing the tasks, I was given to do the first 3 functionalities of the calculator and part of the frontend of the calculator. In this project I learned HTML and CSS which was an addition to my skills in addition I learned how to build containers and images and establishing networks using dockers (the CD workflow part of this project) and management of containerized web applications using Kubernetes. Overall experiencing working in small group to deliver a task was smooth as managed it well and communicated very well which allowed us to understand our strength and weakness points and worked on them to become a better developer yet a better person in general.

Third project was developing a Data Visualisation Web App using GitHub API. For this project I decided to step up and put myself in the hardest position which was a team leader. I know this role will be coming with challenges but as I previously said if you stay in your comfort zone you will never learn. Members of the group voted for me to be the team leader. It was my first time working in a big group of developers (8 people). Team leader position came with my responsibilities such as organizing meetings for the group, having weekly meetings with Stephen, which was very beneficial to me, dividing the tasks and keeping up with the progress and issues. It was my first time to solely manage a group of

people to deliver a task. Management was hard at first because it was my first time being a team leader not a developer in a task but after our first meeting all the frustrations turned into positivity. During this project communication was the most important aspect to our success of delivering the tasks. Communication allowed me to manage the team better as I understood every member weakness and strength which made my decision making easier regarding the tasks. I divided this task into 3 teams evenly: Infrastructure team, backend team and frontend team. This helped us in delivering the task earlier and gave us time to test for bugs and any modifications.

Experiences gained in all the group projects I have worked on:

Challenged I faced in all group projects I have worked on:

How did I manage the project and team communications:

Conclusion: