**4-1 JOURNAL**

BREANNA C SMITH

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVISERTY

COMPUTER SCIENCE CAPSTONE

PROFESSOR MARYANN KRUPA

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

**PART ONE:**

* Have you changed your career plans? If so, what prompted this change? If not, why have you remained with your original plan.

When I first started at SNHU, my goal was to break into app development. I believed that earning a degree in Computer Science would equip me with the knowledge and skills I needed for that path. Having worked in IT support for over 10 years in total, I thought it would be a natural progression. However, over time, my plans have shifted.

I have realized that app development may not be the direction I want to pursue after all. As I transition from active-duty military to the reserves, I have decided to explore a different route which is applying for Officer Candidate School after earning my degree. With 10 years of service already under my belt, I have decided to go ahead and dedicate another 10 years to reaching retirement at 41. After closing in on this degree, I am excited to see what this next chapter will bring.

* How has your thinking about your career evolved?

Initially, I was focused on app development, thinking that my Computer Science degree would naturally lead me down that path. Now, I see my career not just as a series of technical achievements but as an opportunity to blend my IT experience with leadership, ultimately positioning myself for long term stability- possibly even retiring at the age of 41. Ultimately my career evolution has become more about strategic decisions that will give me both personal and professional fulfillment.

* Have you completed any research about your career choice of career? How has this impacted your thinking? Have you thought about seeking an advanced degree or certification after earning your undergraduate degree?

Yes, I have completed my research about my career choice of being an officer. I do plan to hopefully commission as a 25A in the US Army. Which is a Signal Officer which manages the Army’s communication system. I do plan on pursuing an advanced degree, but my goal is to start working on my master’s once my children begin school. Completing my bachelor’s has already required a significant amount of time and dedication, which has often taken me away from my family. For the next few years, I want to focus on my children while continuing to advance towards my career goals. Balancing my personal and professional aspirations is important to me, and I believe taking this approach will allow me to achieve both.

* Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?

So far, I have successfully completed the software design for my SHOP HEALTHY! App, and I’ve configured a bar scanner that will function as an ingredient scanner within the app. The coding and development process has taken some time, but I am proud of the progress I have made. However, I still need to complete my code review. Finding time has been bit challenging with two young children, a 2-month-old, and a 3-year-old in the background. Additionally, I have encountered technical difficulties with my internal microphone on my PC, but I have ordered an external one to resolve that issue.

**PART TWO: CS 499 Status Checkpoints for All Categories**

| **Checkpoint** | **Software Design and Engineering** | **Algorithms and Data Structures** | **Databases** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Artifact Used** | **Artifact name:** SHOP HEALTHY!  **Origin:** CS 319 UI/UX DESIGN | **Artifact name:**  SHOP HEALTHY!  **Origin:** CS 360 MOBILE ARCHITECTURE AND DEVELOPMENT | **Artifact name:**  SHOP HEALTHY!  **Origin:** CS 360 MOBILE ARCHITECTURE AND DEVELOPMENT |
| **Status of Initial Enhancement** | Revised the initial design concept for the login screen and developed it into a functional login interface using Android Studio. | Developed Barcode application  Added Control Flow Algorithm which request camera permissions before proceeding | PLANNED  NOT COMPLETED |
| **Submission Status** | Submitted with feedback from the instructor | COMPLETED | PLANNED  NOT COMPLETED |
| **Status of Final Enhancement** | Feedback planned but not yet completed applied | Feedback planned but not yet completed applied | Planned but not yet completed |
| **Uploaded to ePortfolio** | WAITING FOR FEED BACK BEFORE UPLOADING | Planned but not yet completed | Planned but not yet completed |
| **Status of Finalized ePortfolio** | Planned but not yet completed | Planned but not yet completed | Planned but not yet completed |