Self Assessment

Our Senior Design Project is Medifacts. Basically, Medifacts is a web application, where individuals can find reliable and up-to-date information about medical concerns. It is a sort of forum format, where patients post their concerns with optional images, and verified doctors can respond. In terms of where I am in my academic career, although most of my experience lies in data science, I do have a lot of experience in backend programming as well. This knowledge will be useful in developing our project.

Academically, a lot of my coursework has been geared towards data science and machine learning, because I am in the ACCEND program at UC. My focus for my Masters of Engineering is Artificial Intelligence, hence why my courses have been in that field. Regardless, I still have taken software engineering and other software engineering-related classes that would definitely apply to this project. Software Engineering helped me gain a fundamental knowledge of software development process and gave me experience working on a software team. Also, I am currently in Requirements Engineering, which seems like it will be especially useful for this project.

My co-ops have also helped me prepare for this project. For most of my co-ops I worked at a telecommunications company, Infinera, as a firmware co-op. Even though much of my work was focused on firmware, we still used tools that are common for software engineering like Jira, Azure, and PyCharm. I also worked on back-end software development at the company, on internally used software. During COVID, I worked on a remote team for two full rotations. This gave me the ability to work on a team in different settings, and to learn to be flexible in a team/work setting.

This project is compelling to me because I am very interested in working on the medical side of tech. My search for full-time jobs includes many medical companies because I like the idea of helping others in medicine, while not necessarily working with patients in Hospitals. Doing this project would allow me to exercise my CS skills, as well as learn about the medical field and what kind of problems are relevant.

By the end of the project, I hope to have a working product, in order to possibly get feedback from people in the medical field on how to improve the product. In order to declare our project as finished, I would want to run some regression tests, as well as compile feedback from all potential consumers. Once there is resounding positive feedback, I think it could be declared finished.