**CS 405 Journal: Reflection**

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Upon entering this class, I was sure that it would be a challenge, but I have learned a lot about

how in depth secure coding is and how much I have yet to learn. This class provided a solid foundation

to learning more about cybersecurity and I now know what I want to look at a bit more in detail. I

learned much about implementing secure coding standards into my development process. Methods

such as protecting from buffer overflows, preventing SQL injections, and practicing defense-in-depth. I

also learned that there are far more factors that I should be taking into consideration when planning and

prepping for development. Things like understanding what kind of hackers are out there, what are the

motivations for cyber-attacks, and the levels of the Triple A framework all help to map out how you plan

to approach security in your development. Doing a full risk assessment is also critical to secure and

successful code. Understanding more secure coding policies and standards, like the principles we

learned within project one, are crucial to gaining a foundational basis to cybersecurity. I have gained a

high level of understanding that cybersecurity is an ever evolving subject that is constantly changing and

that continuing education of the new common threats and how to prevent them is necessary to be able

to maintain adequate knowledge to be able to effectively protect your code from attack. One major

topic that I have found my self to have a change of heart on is the zero-trust security. I used to find it

annoying that almost all of the apps I use frequently have adopted stricter security measure, this

includes having to access my phone and/or email to verify my identity to gain access to my programs. I

initially saw this as an unnecessary nuisance just to access my content, but then as I progressed through

this class, I see now that the added efforts are well worth it in the end. With so many large corporations

being targeted and successfully hacked, it is more important than ever to take into consideration as

many security measures as possible to protect us from attack. That is why I look forward to learn more

about defense-in-depth, and other security standards to help me improve on my coding overall. A major

concept I stand behind from the modules in this class was the implementation of security measures

before the end of the project. Saving that kind of thing to the end is far too time consuming and is just

not an efficient way to code. Implementing security measures as well as testing early and often is one

major best practice I plan on implementing immediately.