Coming into this class, I didn’t know much about data wrangling. As a software engineer, I am responsible for data manipulation and knowing how to handle small amounts of data. However, I have never had to dig through all the data as I did at school. At the start, it was a little over whelming not knowing which graph to use or which package was best for handling issues.

To complete my project, I had to take what I learned each week and apply it back to my milestone. The data showed that Congress gets a lot of money in contributions. Most of my questions I had were answered. There are some congress men that have been in office for longer than I have been alive. Overall, what made this project easier is that I am passionate about politics.

In this class I learned to handle large amounts of data. I also learned to make sense out of the data. I never worked with SQLite even though I work with SQL server. It was so different! I never imagined that I could run SQL without having to set up a server and the IDE. SQLite became one of my favorite methods to use SQL. I also was introduced to beautiful soup. Although, it’s not my favorite, I know how to use it.

Honestly, the ethical implications frighten me more now. How would anyone know if I manipulated the data to my own will? When you work with data, you have power to shape it to tell a story. More than ever it’s important to be honest and to be careful when working with data. When working with a large amount of data, it is easy to lose yourself and increase the chances of errors. During this class, I read a lot about ethical issues. It doesn’t seem like a lot of companies follow them. I know that I will follow the ethics provided to me.

Overall, I have had a blast in this class. No, I didn’t like the long homework hours just like an athlete doesn’t like training. Now, I feel like I can actually do a lot! In fact, I have been using some of the stuff I am learning in school at work. The class students were smart, and I learned a lot. I ended up coding more in this class which I am grateful. Some say school is a waste of time. Now, you can learn the same technology on Udemy for pennies on the dollar. In this case, I don’t feel like I wasted my time. It was well worth it, and I recommend it to anyone that is serious about data science.