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**Assignment: End of Course Reflection**

**What stood out to you as the most important things you learned about computer programming this quarter? Why do you think they're important?**

While I had some programming experience coming into this class, I had never taken a formal computer science course. The most important thing I learned about computer programming by taking this course is that there are many different “correct” solutions to a given problem. While interacting with classmates and comparing our work, I recognized that while others approached a problem differently than I did, they still came up with their own working solution. This is important because in future classes and especially in my career, I need to stay open-minded about problem solving and learn from others’ problem solving techniques.

**What topics do you still find confusing? What can you do to get a better grasp on them?**

While I generally understand how to use pointers, I found them to be the most confusing topic covered in this course. I don’t fully understand when it is better to use a pointer vs. passing a variable by reference, and what the advantages of using a pointer variable are. I plan to do further research online and by reviewing the textbook to help me firm up my understanding of pointers.

**What did you learn this quarter about how taking online courses works for you?**

Online courses work well for my personal learning style. Even when I was taking college courses in a traditional classroom environment, I found that I often learned better by reading the textbook on my own than I did by attending lectures. I enjoy being able to move at my own pace.

**How can you generalize your experience in this course in a way that will help you in future courses?**

I learned that it is very important to stay up on the reading and homework assignments. For the first few weeks of the course, I often left my reading until the day before the homework assignment was due. Later on, I started working on the reading assignments and homework for a short time each day. It’s much easier to stay on top of the workload by putting in an hour or two each day, and I plan to take that approach in future courses.

**How has this course helped crystallize your ideas about what a career that involves computer programming might be like?**

I really enjoyed this course and I found that I was genuinely excited to learn more about computer programming each week. This course has reaffirmed to me that I do have a passion for computer programming and has strengthened my motivation to put in the work necessary to begin a career in this field.