**What have you been doing the last 15 weeks?**

You've been building skills, character, and practices that I hope contributed to a rewarding career, whatever direction your life takes you.

Just listing courses you took on a resume means little to a potential employer. What really matters is what skills you developed that can be applied to the job you're seeking. While a paragraph on each course would be impractical, but there are some critical courses that you can match to a particular job you're aiming for—and you can expand on it in a cover letter or resume. You'll also be asking people to write letters of reference, so examples from specific courses can go a long way in someone telling *your* story. Here's some things that come to mind with 236:

COSC 236: Coded over 70 Java classes and applications; demonstrated proficiency with all core programming structures (data types, input/output, streams, selection, comparison, repetition, arrays and data structures, methods, recursion, etc.); using a team-based rapid application development effort, created an interactive web-based solution with HTML and JavaScript; also \_\_\_ [insert role] a student-produced instructional video covering key course topics; explored the Java networking class and how it can be applied to cloud-based applications; worked as part of a productive, effective, team throughout the semester [or led], developing interpersonal and communications skills in addition to programming; established a foundation of secure coding and development based on best practices.

Where is the job market going?

* 12 of LinkedIn 20 Most Promising 2017 Jobs are in Tech (Louis Columbus, Forbes, 1/28/17):  
  <https://www.forbes.com/sites/louiscolumbus/2017/01/28/12-of-linkedins-20-most-promising-2017-jobs-are-in-tech/#377ce8161db3>
* Top Skills for 2017 by LinkedIn:  
  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehV3dUnDad4>