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CISC 3160 : Lab 4 Reflection

This has been a very interesting lab to partake in for the reason of having to learn multiple programming languages at the same time. In this particular lab, the two programming languages that I chose were Python and JavaScript, and the main reason for that is due to me not having much experience using those technologies. The standard curriculum at the Brooklyn College Computer Science Department revolves around Java and, to a much lesser degree, C++, so it was fairly uncomfortable for me to try and branch out into other programming languages. However, I found that the experience of engaging in this lab was enjoyable. Regarding syntax, JavaScript was not very difficult to learn because much of it is relatable to C++ or Java in terms of structure and layout. However, that cannot be said for Python where at first I felt anxious at how different the syntax was, one example being how particular Python is about indentation. Despite that, once I learned the general gist of how the syntax was structured it later became a non-issue. Another interesting aspect regarding these programming languages is that they are both very famous for being scripting languages. I have heard that it is very beneficial to learn a scripting language as it gives the user a larger toolset to optimize their workflow, and this lab was a good opportunity for me to try out both of these languages. I found that these technologies had a low barrier to entry and that it was fairly easy to quickly start a new project. Also it was nice to have a structure to learn the languages and making a plan with a reference page made it much easier to consolidate the information into my mind. As far as I am aware, I understand JavaScript to be mainly purposed for web development and Python to be a tool for data management, and working with technologies it was fairly clear to see that. Disregarding the syntax, there are many tools in Python that makes it much easier to deal with data structures and data and for JavaScript it is fairly easy to incorporate into HTML code. Overall, this has been a very beneficial lab for me.