Career Plans:

The Cornichon group members have a variety of career aspirations, ranging from Java & .NET Developers, to System Engineer, UX Designer and Business Analyst. There are many common elements between roles, predominantly in the soft skill requirements of the role, although, there are also some common traits between the roles in regards to required hard skills. The area in which the roles differ is in the role specific hard skills. Each of our career plans contain similar elements, and vary mostly on the specific requirements of these elements.

As stated, there is a wide variety of career aspirations across the six team members that make up Cornichon. That being said, three members of Cornichon aspire to become software developers of some description. Whether it be in Java, .NET, or another language as required, all three members have a passion for full stack development. One member of team Cornichon has expressed an interest in the communications hardware and configuration predominant field of System Engineer. One member of the group has a passion for creativity and design, and wishes to design and develop products based on user experience. This particular role is a more client interactive role than those previously mentioned, yet still requires the front-end development skills. Our last member has chosen the role of Business Analyst as their ideal job. This role is centred around knowing and understanding all aspects of the business as a whole, and interacting with both internal and external stakeholders, with less of a focus on the specialty technical skills the other roles have defined.

Our chosen roles each have their own unique hard skill requirement elements, yet many required hard skills are either the same or very similar. For example, four of the six desired roles are development / design roles which require experience in web technologies, with emphasis on at least one form of JavaScript framework / library. Drilling down further, three of those four roles have requirements for experience in a C-based language.

In regards to soft skills, the majority of requirements are common to all roles. Obviously, some experience in the field is a requirement for all roles, as well as teamwork skills being highly regarded in the majority of the ideal job adverts. Communication skills are the next most frequently mentioned requirements. Other common traits required, although expressed in different words across the job adverts, are skills such as the ability and desire to expand one’s knowledge, or to seek and find information.

The area in which our ideal jobs differ is predominantly in the role specific hard skills. Each role has their own specific skill set, depending on the technologies the company uses. Even though two of the ideal jobs have the same job title of Java Developer, their advertised skill requirements vary quite significantly. One focuses on knowledge of specific frameworks, libraries and build tools, whereas the other is more focused on the knowledge of a range of programming languages. All four of the developer /designer roles have requirements regarding JavaScript framework and cloud technologies experience, but the specific frameworks and technologies differ from role to role.

Both the UX Designer role and the Business Analyst role make mention of communication skills, but the differ on who the role is required to communicate with, one dealing with customers, the other with the business as a whole. The most different of all the roles is the Systems Engineer role. All of the technology requirements of this role are unique in the job advertisements, and with the exception of SQL, are in a field of their own, that is networks and communications.

Across the Cornichon group, our career plans are very similar. We all have some base knowledge in our chosen field, which has sparked our interest to further pursue the required knowledge. We all believe the skills we gain throughout our degree, although the skills will vary from person to person, will lay a solid foundation for us to enter the workforce and gain the required work experience to fill our ideal roles.

Some group members have identified steps they will take above and beyond our Degree requirements, to further expand their knowledge base such as undertaking online learning, or getting involved in clubs or group projects outside of University and work. Involvement in clubs and group projects, along with attending networking events have been identified as beneficial in that a wider professional network will provide greater opportunities to gain employment in one of our ideal roles.