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ISAT 252 Reflection

I was excited to begin taking ISAT 252 classes before the semester started. I have been curious for a long time about coding, specifically how it works and how it is beneficial for people to learn and do. Coming into this class I expected to learn a general understanding of code and how it works. I expected to be assigned to do many coding tasks that would help me learn and practice code. This aligns with the goals I had set for myself coming into this class. I wanted to learn enough about code that would help me better understand it and see if I would be interested in pursuing a career in it. In this class I did the first couple of assignments on the code4yourlife website and earner badges for them. Once covid-19 changed the method of the course, I was still very lost with what coding is and was worried I would never learn it. I would first attempt coding activities that I found online but I realized I was jumping into doing coding myself too quickly. I did not have enough back round knowledge yet about coding. I then switched to LinkedIn learning videos and YouTube videos on coding and walk through activities that allowed me to better understand what exactly coding is. I spent around 1-2 hours a week on learning coding outside of class time. Most of the time I spent watching lesson videos and only minor amount of time doing coding. My goals remained the same throughout this course, I wanted to better understand what coding was and to be able to see if it was of any interest to me. It is not exactly coding but for my job I was able to learn how to code within macros on Microsoft excel which was a big accomplishment for me. This allows you to do more than just what is readily available on the tool bars within excel. This is what one of my goals was for this semester was to take the technically and compute skills I gained from this class and take them with me to other classes and work to be able to do things I wasn’t able to before which was a huge accomplishment for me. I do not feel as if I failed any of my goals necessarily, Though I do wish I could talk more about coding and do more on my own time without assistance but I now know that it comes with time and people learn this at different paces. I feel more educated by learning about different coding languages, software’s, platforms, etc. I learned that coding is something that can be fun and doesn’t have to be extremely challenging or an important task, which is one of the biggest things I took away from this class. You can spend time doing fun things and writing code for yourself that makes small tasks or equations easier. Doing these tasks showed me that I don’t think that coding is a career choice for me, but it isn’t something I want to be done with and forget about. I want to learn more about it and practice simple activities to make learning it more enjoyable. Wrapping up my thoughts on this course and semester, I did the best I could give the circumstances going on. I believe I deserve an A in this course as a result and I believe this is because I tried and gained knowledge from this class not only about coding but about life and everything else.