**Discussion Topics: Pragmatic Programming**

In this module's discussion board assignment, answer the following questions:

1. Using the ***Pragmatic Programmer*** reading assignment, select one (1) topic and complete the following:
   * Why did you select this topic?
   * Summarize the main points (in your own words) of that topic in three or four sentences.
   * Find at least one additional resource (video, book, article, website, etc.) that supports your summary. Include a link to that resource.

I selected Topic 27: Don’t Outrun Your Headlights for this week’s discussion. Often, creating a new program can feel somewhat intimidating at first; this is why this section stuck out to me. I am admittedly a planner, so not being able to see around the corner is something that I hate to face.

Throughout programming, if we are not careful, we can sabotage ourselves by going faster or further than we should. Our authors compare this to outrunning our headlights since low-beam lights are not long-range, giving us a limited view ahead of us (Thomas & Hunt, 2024/2020, p. 99). Taking the process step by step is helpful when programming. During each step, ensure that everything works correctly and is purposeful (Thomas & Hunt, 2024/2020, p. 99). To help this, gather feedback from others, error codes, unit tests, and trial runs by reading, evaluating, and more. It is essential to distinguish what we know versus what guesses we use to predict future outcomes. There will be circumstances where we cannot avoid speculation since client expectations must be set, but it is best to break it down as much as possible. Sometimes, we encounter black swans, which throw us off our rails due to their unpredictability. We can find ways to advance and improve our ability to see further. In the topic, the authors may consider this similar to turning on the high beams or brights to expand the change.

Black Swan theory dates back to 1697 but has been revised to fit today’s use and understanding (GeeksforGeeks, 2024). The theory goes beyond just coding, reaching other aspects of life (GeeksforGeeks, 2024). Black Swan events can have a negative impact on stakeholders.

**References**

GeeksforGeeks. (2024, January 8). *Black Swan Theory: History, Example, Benefits & Effects*. GeeksforGeeks. https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/black-swan-theory/

Thomas, D., & Hunt, A. (2020). *The Pragmatic Programmer: your journey to mastery*. Addison-Wesley. (Original work published 2024)

***Before you submit your thread, put your name in the subject line.***

**Assignment Requirements and Grading:**

1. An initial post of approximately 250 words is due by **Thursday, 11:59 p.m., CT**.
2. For the initial post to be considered substantive, it should be at least 250 words in length and fully cover the topics being presented. Single-sentence definitions or responses will not be awarded points.
3. Submit your post by clicking on the **Assignment Link** above, then **Create Thread**. You must create a thread in order to view your peers' posts. Tip: Create your post in a Word document and then copy and paste your work into the thread.
4. A minimum of three (3) responses, **to the original threads of other students**, of 100-200 words each are due by **Sunday, 11:59 p.m., CT**.
5. To view the rubric grading criteria, click on the following link: [Discussion Board Grading Rubric](https://content.bellevue.edu/cst/csd/rubricdbv3.pdf).

**(50 points)**