



SECTION A: Tech Track Reflection

Step 1: Track Choice

Which tech track (*AWS, Salesforce, Data Science, Data Analytics, Data Engineering, Cybersecurity, Software Engineering, or Creative Tech*) are you planning to pursue?

<u>Step 1: Chosen Tech Track</u>
<p>A. Track choice:</p> <p><i>Software Engineering</i></p>

Step 2: Reflect on your “Why”

Please reflect again on your **why** for pursuing your chosen tech track. **List 3 reasons why this track is of interest to you.**

Step 2: Reasons

- A. I chose Software Engineering because I want to become a freelancer and create another source of income.
- B. I love coding and enjoy seeing my work come to life in real-world applications.
- C. I also want to improve my problem-solving skills and keep challenging myself.

Step 3: Desired Job/Position

What would be your **ideal job title or position**?

Step 3: Job title/Position you want

Full-Stack Developer

Step 4: Expected Obstacle(s)

Everything worth doing will have hard parts. Please list at least one challenge or obstacle that you expect to encounter during your studies in **Foundations and your tech track**, over the coming **weeks/months**.

Step 4: Challenge(s)/Obstacle(s)

One challenge I expect to encounter is balancing the time and effort, needed to fully understand new concepts, especially when i face complex coding problems

Step 5: Support plan

Please **list at least 2 ways you will deal** with the **challenge(s)/obstacle(s)**. It could be seeking support from others, a specific way you will resource yourself schedule your time, or something else. *(There is no right or wrong answer– this is for you.)*

Step 5: Ways to deal with challenge(s)/obstacle(s)

A. If I don't understand a something i will asked help from ehub support or my peers

B. I will work hard to face the challenge and obstacle

Step 6:

Do some web research to **learn more about how technical teams work** in your specific field. Look at at least 3 sources.

Then, **list at least 3 roles that you may find on a technical team in your field**, and briefly state what each does. **List at least 1 source** where you found this information.

Step 6: Technical Teams in Your Field

Role A / Description:

Product Owner / Product Manager

- **What they do:** Connects the team with clients or stakeholders by defining the product backlog, setting priorities, and shaping the product vision. Ensures the project meets business goals.

Role B / Description:

Project Manager

- **What they do:** Oversees project timelines, resources, and budgets. Coordinates communication, manages risks, and makes sure the team delivers on time.

Role C / Description:

Software Architect

- **What they do:** Designs the high-level structure of the system, sets coding standards, chooses technology stacks, and ensures scalability, performance, and security.

Source(s) of the above information:

1. [Alcor BPO – Key Roles in a Software Development Team](#)
2. [Deazy – Software Development Team Roles and Responsibilities](#)
3. [ITRex Group – Software Development Team Structure](#)

Step 7a: Engaging with Your Industry

As you enhance your understanding of technical teams and how your tech track's industry works:

List at least 2 publications, newsletters, YouTube channels or community platforms that you have followed or subscribed to.

Step 7a: Engaging With Your Industry

Subscription #1: FreeCodeCamp (YouTube & Blog)

- **Short Description:** FreeCodeCamp offers free tutorials, coding challenges, and project-based lessons in software engineering. Their YouTube channel has long-form coding bootcamps and real-world projects, which help me strengthen both theory and practice.

Subscription #2: Hacker News (Community Platform)

- **Short Description:** Hacker News is a community-driven platform where developers and tech professionals share the latest industry news, articles, and discussions about software, startups, and technology trends. It helps me stay updated on how the software industry evolves.

Step 7b: Learning About Your Industry

As you enhance your understanding of technical teams and how your tech track's industry works:

Share URLs for at least 3 relevant videos that you found and watched on YouTube. *(Not from the playlist provided later.)*

Step 7b: Learning About Your Industry

Youtube Videos Engaged With:

#1: Roles in Software Development (Dev, DevOps, Ops, Manager explained)

#2: How are software teams organized in large companies?

#3: Different Software Engineering Roles in Tech

Step 7c: Industry Professionals

Go to **LinkedIn.com**. *(If you don't have an account already, you can create one. We will work on building/improving your profile later.)* Play around with searching for people.

Find 3 people who have worked in your chosen field for at least 2 years and have careers that look interesting to you. Ideally, these individuals would be on the African continent, but you can choose individuals from other parts of the world.

Provide the names and URLs of their profiles below.

Step 7c: Industry Professionals

Name #1: Oussama Khalfi

URL #1:<https://www.linkedin.com/in/oussamakhalfi/>

Name #2:Catalin Pirtiu

URL #2:<https://www.linkedin.com/in/catalin-pirtiu-276601ab/>

Name #3:Esraa Nagy

URL #3:<https://www.linkedin.com/in/esraa-nagy-243428339/>

Step 8: Interview an Expert or Watch Expert Interviews

It's important to be curious and always ask questions. What have you wondered about your chosen field but not found an answer to? Your questions may be about what job positions are available, how satisfied people are in your chosen career, paths to advancement, how readily available **remote work is vs. local work**, the largest employers in your field, or anything else related!

In this activity, you have 2 options – **Choose 1**:

Option 1: Interview an Expert in Your Industry

Option 2: Watch Expert Interviews

You can only choose 1 option and you must answer all the questions (A –D) associated with that option. Choose Option 1 or Option 2 below.

Step 8- Option 1: Interview an Expert in Your Industry

We have prepared an **Interview Guide** (*including a template for you to use when you message experts on LinkedIn or other platforms*).

The Interview Guide should help you prepare and conduct interviews with the industry expert. During the interview, take down notes to answer the following questions:

<u>Step 8: Option 1: Expert Interview Insights</u>
(OPTION 1 A – D)

A. From the expert's perspective, what is the demand for employees in this specialization, globally and locally?

B. What kind of preparation did the expert undertake to get where s/he is today in their career?

C. What is one piece of advice for how I can be successful in the field?

D. What are my 2 biggest takeaways from the interview?

Step 8 – Option 2: Watch Expert Videos

We have prepared a YouTube playlist for each specialization:

- [Data Analytics/ Engineering and Science track](#)
- [Salesforce track](#)
- [AWS track](#)
- [Software Engineering track](#)
- [Creative Tech track](#)
- [Cybersecurity track](#)

Choose 1 specialization's playlist and watch the videos from the playlist. As you watch the videos, answer the following questions:

[Step 8: Option 2: Expert Video Insights](#)

(OPTION 2 A – D)

What are the job prospects looking like for my specialization, globally and locally?

Global Outlook:

- **Stabilization Post-Pandemic:** The software engineering job market is stabilizing after a slow start in 2025. Demand is shifting toward experienced developers and roles tied to AI and infrastructure. Software development roles are projected to grow 17% from 2023 to 2033, adding roughly 327,900 new jobs
- **AI Integration:** Companies are increasingly seeking professionals who can integrate AI into their development processes, making AI-related skills highly valuable.

Local Outlook (Africa):

- **Emerging Tech Hubs:** Countries like Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa are becoming significant players in the tech industry, with growing demand for software engineers.
- **Competitive Salaries:** In South Africa, for instance, full-stack developers can earn between R60,000 to R105,000 monthly, while AI engineers can

command up to R1.2 million annually

What kind of preparation must I make to become successful in this industry?

Continuous Learning: Stay updated with the latest programming languages, frameworks, and tools.

AI Proficiency: Understand the fundamentals of AI and how to integrate AI solutions into software development.

Practical Experience: Engage in personal projects, contribute to open-source initiatives, and participate in coding challenges.

Soft Skills Development: Enhance communication, problem-solving, and teamwork abilities, as they are crucial in collaborative environments.

What types of content do I need to consume regularly to keep up to speed with my industry?

Tech News Websites: Follow platforms like TechCrunch, Wired, and The Verge for the latest industry developments.

Podcasts: Listen to shows like "Software Engineering Daily" and "The

Changelog" for in-depth discussions on software engineering topics.

Newsletters: Subscribe to newsletters such as "The Polymathic Engineer" and "Big Tech Digest" for curated content and insights.

Online Communities: Engage with forums like Stack Overflow, Reddit's r/SoftwareEngineering, and GitHub to exchange knowledge and experiences.

What are my 2 biggest takeaways from the videos?

- 1. Adaptability is Crucial: The ability to learn and adapt to new technologies is vital for long-term success in the software engineering field.**
- 2. AI as a Tool, Not a Replacement: AI enhances the capabilities of software engineers but doesn't replace the need for human expertise.**

Step 9: Information Exchange – Peer Activity #1

For your first peer activity, **find at least 1 peer, and ideally a group of 2 or 3**. We encourage you to find people who have chosen the same field/tech track as you, but it is ok if they have a different track. Please share your answers to Steps 1-8 with one another, then answer the questions in the Step 9 box.

Step 9: Information Exchange

A. List the first and last name of at least 1 peer that you met with for this activity:

Tarik Lahmam

B. What is one thing you learned from your peer/group?

I learned that some peers are focusing on building full-stack applications that integrate AI tools to improve user experience and streamline workflows, which also aligns with sustainability efforts in tech by optimizing resources.

C. What is one new question or curiosity about your industry that you have after exchanging information with your peer/group?

I am curious about how software engineering teams measure the effectiveness of AI integration in their projects and how it impacts long-term productivity and cost-efficiency.



Please go back to Savanna and continue with your learning content. You will be prompted on when to return to complete Section B.

SECTION B: Personal Branding

Step 10: Personal Branding and Portfolio Website

In the box below, paste the link to your Portfolio Website.

URL Instructions

Make sure your webpage is live on the web (i.e. not simply a draft in your website builder). At a minimum, your website should contain:

- Your full name.
- A tagline briefly stating your professional identity
- A photo and additional information/sections are welcome, but *optional*.

The URL **should either be**:

- A **custom domain name**, for example, www.Kehindelbrahim.com
- A **shortened URL**, for example, <https://Bit.ly/Kehindelbrahim>
- A **free URL** that is clean and short, like <https://Kehindelbrahim.site.com>

Step 10: Personal Branding and Portfolio Website

<https://sites.google.com/view/nouh-el-attar/home>

Once you have completed this worksheet:

1. Export/convert to .pdf.
 2. Rename it per the instructions.
 3. Upload to Savanna as your Milestone 11 Submission.
 - 4. Celebrate a job well done!**
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