Esmeralda Dodd

CS 499: Databases Narrative

This artifact is the final project for my DAT 220 class that was created in December of 2019. This is the project that I used to encompass the “Databases” portion of the ePortfolio. I chose this because what the artifact represents is the ability to store, transform, and manipulate data collected to be able to affectively data mine and analyze it. The premise of the project was to answer the simple question as to why a company was declining in sales and profits. Using a program called JMP, I showcased in my final project my ability to graph, translate, and analyze the data to provide a conclusion as to why this was happening, as well as provide insight towards correcting mistakes to inherently increase sales and profits. In the final project, I described my analyses, followed up with some screenshots of graphs and charts to support my claims.

When it came to enhancing the project, due to the fact that it wasn’t code or something that I completely created on my own, I decided to enhance it by showcasing an enhanced ability to utilize a software program to not only access, but manipulate data from the data warehouse/table. I decided to take graphing to the next level and enhance them with more detail, as well as add more advanced analysis and insight as to why the program is beneficial for the company and how it can be used to promote good business practice for data analysis, which is how I met the course objectives that were planned in Module One.

The process of enhancing this artifact was quite the learning process. Using the program was still quite fresh in my mind, so it was not too difficult to navigate and perform the tasks that were taught a couple months ago. What I found most challenging was obtaining the program so that I could use it to enhance the project. I ran into an issue of not being able to access a virtual environment that the class utilized. Fortunately, I was recently granted the access to it again, but had to use the computer of my colleague so that I could load the program. Hinderances caused by my own computer/device has been the biggest hinderance. I found some useful tips online, as well as some of the instructional guides provided by JMP, to be able to advance my own learning of how to use it, and therefore applying that to the enhancement of the project. Above all else, the one thing that I find always stands true is to always remember that technology continues to advance and change, and utilizing resources is one of the best ways to ensure you can stay up to date, or gain the help necessary to complete an objective. I find that most of what I learn is from the experiences of others, which helps me gain the knowledge I need to pass on to those who may run into the same questions, or to take with me in the professional sector.