

## **Final Project Reflection**

The greatest resources for me during this project were the lecture slides, CP 4, all of my previous assignments and the Node.js/Express Cheatsheet. Additionally, attending Professor Hovik's office hours was extremely helpful because when I was done, I got a lot of great feedback, which I implemented to improve both my front and back end of this project.

Some of the hardest features to implement in the project were the API, understanding the File I/O, and implementing the cart. Overall working with and debugging the API posed as a challenge as there was a lot to debug and understanding the proper techniques to document and implement the fetch calls was confusing. With File I/O, it was difficult because we had issues appending to JSON files, as well as correctly doing the error handling when reading data. Finally, the cart was the toughest feature to implement because it was tricky designing a way to use a post request to store the item added to the cart and its quantity, as well as reading from that file to properly display each item in the cart (I utilized another get call to get product info based on its id).

A feature I tried to implement that was unsuccessful was storing the reviews from the post request in a JSON file because the format would get messed up each time we appended to the JSON file. This is why I decided to store my customer reviews in a text file.

If I had another week to work on this project I would add a loyal customers page, improve the UI, and implement a way to customize the product.

The things that I liked most about this project was seeing my UI come together and being proud that I was able to make a functioning ecommerce website.

The breakdown and checkpoints throughout the assignment were helpful, as they helped provide a full plan and started code with the final project proposal, so when I started the project, I had an organized way to go about implementing it.

I worked with Alice Cheng on the backend and I would say that my experience working as a pair was great and would highly recommend it. When we worked on the backend together, we used live share and peer coded, so the work was evenly distributed. It was very helpful to work in a pair since implementing the API was one of the most difficult tasks of the project.

Some advice I would give future students taking this course and implementing the final project is to start early and have fun with it. Overall I had a great time working on the final project (and all other assignments) because you have a lot of creative liberty which gives you a lot of freedom to make a great project to add to your portfolio.