Classes

I can't express enough how much I enjoyed having the lectures online and it being a reverse class. In many of my previous programming classes, a lot of time was spent on technicalities that one student might be facing that does not address the rest of the class. This used to bring my enjoyment of the class down significantly as I would find it hard to focus when the class came to a stop every few minutes.

Peers

I enjoyed the diversity of backgrounds the class brings. Not everyone is familiar with programming, and those who are aren't always from a formal computer science background. This makes for the way people approach games very different and learning from each other was made that much more enjoyable. This aspect of camaraderie was given more fuel thanks to the involvement of the class discord channel. Most channels were active through a good amount of the semester and people were not shy to help one another.

Community

One thing that I was pleasantly surprised by is how open to sharing code everyone was. Having read some of the relevant media texts about the history of computer science and the Internet as whole gave me some perspective on this. A big part of Internet history was how open access the source code of a lot of big projects were. Amongst discord users, programmers & gamers, all members of the community enjoy being able to share each other's code. This comes to me as a big contrast as I was originally from a visual design background. It felt as though everyone had their own niche and revealing one's process gave away their secret. It made for collaboration between classmates almost non-existent. I was very happy knowing that classmates were here to help & share and our teacher maintained a platform where that was possible.

Future

Regarding my programming practice, I do feel that programming is finally starting to click for me. I can look at bigger projects I've marveled at in the past and can read the source code without feeling overly confused. That's a feeling I had not felt until truly understanding OOP this semester. It was always a term used in any of the online Javascript courses I did or mentioned by my previous programming teachers, but only in this class was I able to put in practice something I understood in depth. I feel very creatively fulfilled. My hope is to keep having fulfilment through my years in university and align with a career that matches my passion.