Henry Osei

Eng.102

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Class Observation

Computers have always been a love of mine. I have always been engrossed in computers and the sciences behind them. That is why when coming to college I decided to choose my major as Information Systems which would allow me to study something I loved. I hope this love will one day lead me to a government contracting job which I will be able to created various programs. I Am currently enrolled in the beginner course Cosc 175. Where I have focused on the coding language C++ and learned the basics of programming. I was able to take the opportunity recently to observe a upper-level course in my field. This course is Cosc 236 which introduces new topics and a new programming language. I will have to take this course in the near future in order to receive my bachelor’s degree in that field.

When observing Cosc 236 I saw many familiar topics, whiles some new ones were introduced. I saw different teaching styles and a different class room environment. The first thing that caught my attention when entering the classroom was the down size in class size. I observed during a lecture and did not see many students in the class. In the course which I am currently enrolled in my class size would entail maybe 50 students or more. In this class there were maybe no more than 30 students in the class. You would think with this small class would allow a better interaction between students and teacher but it was quite the opposite. I felt as the students were distracted by their phones and computers. This professor allows electronics to take notes. The students were not attentive as they are in my class. Students although did have many questions when the teacher came to an end of the lecture. This course seems to rely more on the book for a better understanding of the information. In the course I take right now I barely even look to the book for answers because all my questions are answered during lecture.

This course seems to build on many of the topics in which I have already learned in my beginner course. Many of the topics like functions which I have learned about in my course were built upon in this class to make more complex programs. Loops in which we have discussed in my course which I have come to the understanding they allow a program to run multiple times are also used in this upper-level course. When seeing this it makes me happy that I had taken the beginner course and I actually listen to the professor. Although there were many old topics discussed there were new topics. The professor discussed arrays and how there are more advanced arrays. The professor also introduced Matrixes which blew my mind because we have not touched on either or and probably will not touch on either. The complexity of both blew my mind because this would be what I would be doing in the near future.

Looking at what I will be doing in the future excites me but also lies instills fear in me. Makes me wonder if I will be able to do this or will I lose interest in this? I only hope that my love of computers will keep me going and i will be able to succeed in this and