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CSD310 Assignment 12.3

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Lessons Learned

The group project we’ve worked on for the last three weeks is one of my better experiences with a group project. I think that part of what made it a better experience was that it was a longer project with multiple phases. Knowing that I have more experience with this type of work, I was able to take on a “group mom” role. My teammates—especially DeJanae—did a good job contributing to the project, which also helped to make it a better experience than many other group projects I’ve worked on.

I found one aspect particularly difficult. I know Vee was on a loaner computer and that made it difficult for her to work on the project effectively, but it seemed to me that she was depending on AI to generate her work, and I wasn’t sure how to handle it. It didn’t seem like my place to bring it up to her. I’ve used AI as a helping hand, but with an understanding of what I need it to produce so that I can pass it constraints that will ensure that what it generates will meet my needs, and I think Vee is still working on developing that skill. I did offer her help understanding some of the nuances of SQL and Python, which she did take me up on for a project in our other class, but I wasn’t sure how to tackle it in the context of the group project.

Outside of the group dynamics aspect of the project, I did learn a lot from working on the case study. I increased my familiarity with tkinter, which I was first introduced to near the end of the first Python course in this program at the end of last year. I worked through making a bar graph with the matplotlib module, which I was surprised to learn is quite a bit more complicated than making a line graph. The supplemental SQL course I’ve been taking on Codecademy helped me to generate more effective queries for the reports for the case study. Overall, I think that analyzing the case study, developing the database, and creating the application to show the reports all went very well, and I’m happy with the program we created.

I appreciated the feedback from other students on our presentation. They brought up factors my group had not considered, such as the potential for type of equipment to impact whether it’s more likely to be rented or purchased. Given more time, I would have enjoyed finding a way to incorporate factors like these into our project. I hope that we were able to give helpful feedback to the other groups, as well. In the future, I will certainly work to more thoroughly think through factors that could impact the data generated for a solution.