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11/15/2024

CS499

4-1 Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

**Part One**

1. Have you changed your career plans? If so, what prompted this change? If not, why have you remained with your original plan?

My career plans have not changed at any point during my participation in the Computer Science program. I plan to remain in my current field and use my degree to open new avenues for advancement. This will allow me to leverage both my existing years of career development as well as my new knowledge and credentials to develop and take advantage of new career opportunities.

1. How has your thinking about your career evolved?

In general terms, my thinking about my career has not meaningfully evolved during the program. However, as I have studied new topics and broadened my understanding of computer science, I have been able to consider many ways to apply that knowledge to create additional value for my company and clients.

1. Have you completed any research about your choice of career? How has this impacted your thinking? Have you thought about seeking an advanced degree or certification after earning your undergraduate degree?

I have worked in my current field for more than 18 years, so in a way, you could say that I’ve researched it extensively. An advanced degree should not be necessary to meet my current career ambitions, though I will leave space for that to change in the future as my career continues to develop. I will very likely pursue a Security+ certification in the near future, however.

1. Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?

So far, I believe I have addressed the course outcomes:

* Develop a security mindset that anticipates adversarial exploits in software architecture and designs to expose potential vulnerabilities, mitigate design flaws, and ensure privacy and enhanced security of data and resources
* Demonstrate an ability to use well-founded and innovative techniques, skills, and tools in computing practices for the purpose of implementing computer solutions that deliver value and accomplish industry- specific goals
* Employ strategies for building collaborative environments that enable diverse audiences to support organizational decision making in the field of computer science

Progress on achieving the other outcomes is ongoing, though I believe I will also continue to strengthen my mastery of these outcomes through my upcoming projects and artifact enhancements.

**Part Two:**

* Software design and engineering
  + I have implemented enhancements for this artifact. Additional updates based on feedback are ongoing.
* Algorithms and data structures
  + I have begun developing enhancements for this artifact.
* Databases
  + I have not begun working on this artifact yet.

**Status Checkpoints for All Categories**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Checkpoint** | **Software Design and Engineering** | **Algorithms and Data Structures** | **Databases** |
| **Name of Artifact Used** | CS360 Android Inventory Management Application | CS300 Course Catalog Management Application | CS340 Animal Shelter Dashboard |
| **Status of Initial Enhancement** | Complete | In progress | Not started |
| **Submission Status** | Submitted | Not submitted | Not submitted |
| **Status of Final Enhancement** | In progress | Not started | Not started |
| **Uploaded to ePortfolio** | No | No | No |
| **Status of Finalized ePortfolio** | Not started | Not started | Not started |