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CS2420 – Meyer

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Assignment 02 Analysis

- 1) There were many times during this assignment when I wished I had a partner specifically because I am still very new to Java. I am an EAE major and thus I know python much better than Java, and I get confused with how syntax and other things work in Java compared to Python. This is also why completing these assignments takes me over 20 hours. I am unable to attend TA help hours because of class conflict and nobody I know really can help me out either so I am off to fend on my own as best I can with Java.
- 2) Comparator Interface makes it so that I can use a custom comparison for generic types, whereas Comparable Interface allows me to specify exactly how the objects are compared. For example, comparing integers would be most efficiently done through a comparator, but comparing strings would be best done through comparable interface. Yes, in my project on the feature used to look up books by author, and title if it is the same author, I used both comparator and comparable. I used a comparator to compare book authors, but used a comparable interface for the titles if the author was the same.
- 3) I am terribly inefficient and the only reason this assignment got done is because I had help through writing 90% of it with a tutor. I cannot teach myself Java, I cannot learn through videos, or books, and I can never attend TA hours so I am stuck in my own bubble at the moment. I do not know how to improve this in all honesty. My first language was Python, and switching to Java isn't easy for me, I'll just try to get all the in-person help I can get. Hopefully partner programming is better. I understand all the concepts fine, but coding with Java syntax is a Pandora's box to me.
- 4) It is important to write generic code because this is a generic course. The methods and algorithms we learn here are universal among all languages and coding styles and as such must be learned in a generic way so that we may implement them in any circumstance.
- 5) 30+ hours.