**CSE 310—Applied Programming**

**W09 Prove – Soft Skills - Practice**

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| **Date:** | 10/14 |
| **Teacher:** |  |

After watching the video “The First 20 Hours – How to Learn Anything”, ponder and then answer the following two questions (minimum 100 words for each question).

Question 1 – What does it mean to learn enough to self-correct when learning software technologies? Consider what ways you might be practicing software incorrectly. How can you change your approach?

Learning enough to self correct means getting a basic understanding, or getting the tools to help you when you run into a problem. This means that when you do something with the skill that you are learning, compare it to the knowledge you have already learned or turn to those resources you have and see where you did well and where you need to put more effort. This will allow you to see where work needs to be done in order to improve quicker. One way I practice incorrectly is that I like to gain a lot of knowledge and then just go at it, when I get stuck in power through. This will help me learn a lot, but wont help me in learning how to do that skill. I could change my approach by spending more time working on the skill rather than just learning about the skill. An example of this is when I was learning to juggle I tried juggling 4 balls when I could only juggle 3. I thought it was similar and spent a long time failing. turns out juggling 4 balls is a vastly different style of juggling than 3 balls. I could have saved so much time if I had just self corrected instead of just trying to power through.

Question 2 – What barriers are in your way to prevent practicing consistently (our class requires 24 hours every two weeks)? What can you do to remove some of those barriers?

Some barriers that get in my way from practicing consistently are many group projects for my classes. This is a barrier because a lot of time is taken from my day to join group meetings and participate many hours into projects in tandem with someone else’s schedule. Working in groups isn't the only issue here though, the assignments are confusing and information about it spans 3 different pages sometimes. What should take 15 minutes takes 1-2 hours. Something that can remove this barrier for me is to step up as a better leader. By stepping up I’ll be able to take a bigger role in reducing the time this “should be 15 minute section” by looking at the assignments beforehand and then bringing up my findings at the beginning rather than just floundering around with everyone.