**Milestone 4 Project/Class Reflection**

**Keke Wu**

This is my first formal programming class after spending about three years on film making, TV shows, and design. I enjoyed the way Aileen taught us and got a lot of practices through different labs and projects. I was so surprised to find my huge improvement on mobile development after the whole semester. And I finally realized that programming is a thing that practice makes perfect.

At first, I had no idea how to improve my programming skills at all and had a hard time figuring out some very basic concepts. Especially for Project2/Grad Project, I tried to create an app for researchers to store their data when they are doing field research, so I set up a SQLite database to store the data and then integrated the Google Map API to get the current device location as well as the coordinates. I had no database experience before, which was the most difficult part for me. I started this project before Thanksgiving and watched a bunch of different Android SQLite tutorials online, which was a resource I didn’t notice when I was doing project1. I did spend a lot of time on getting the Google Map work, and I was really happy to see it finally come out after 7 different nonworking versions. The biggest thing I’ve learned from these projects was how to find effective ways to solve my problems, which I think is the most important thing to improve programming skills.

An issue that hasn’t been solved yet is to store the coordinates I got, every time the user clicks the item from the home screen, it will automatically get current coordinates again. Users would only be able to see these coordinates in my database. What I will do next is to get a better management of the database I created and create another function to update the coordinates only when clicked. I was so glad I took this class this semester and would continue to learn more and practice more in Advanced Mobile App Development class!