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Mini Independent Study Reflective Essay

For my independent study I chose to make a website. Originally, I planned to make a website showcasing the work I done and what I had learned in my coding and graphic design courses here at UA. Unfortunately, once I was finished with my graphic design coursework, I was not very happy with the way it turned out and I did not want to put it in the spotlight. Also, we ended up doing only three assignments so even if I was proud of the work I had done, there was not much to show. I decided to change the path of my website and showcase my love for coding and why I chose it as my career. I also added a few personal touches. For example, some of my accomplishments and a few photos of my family people who inspire me. I have taken many coding classes at UA and have loved all of them but this semester I was focusing on my New College seminars and graphic design courses. However, I wanted to keep practicing my coding, so I did not lose the skill and knowledge I have gained over the years. I decided to find some online recourses that could help with the upkeep of my skills. I did a lot of research on which website would help me the most and I picked Codecadamy. Codecadamy is a website that lets you pick career paths or specific programs to learn. I chose career path because I wanted to get a broad understanding of everything, I need to know for Front-End web development. I dedicated about 1-2 hours of my day to working on Codecadamy and learned so much. My career path began with teaching the basics of HTML and CSS, the code languages that makeup the bones of a webpage. Then it moved on to teaching JavaScript, the language that actually makes parts of your webpage functional and interactive. I have not finished my career path yet, but I have already learned so much and also polished the skills I already knew. I really enjoyed working on this project because coding in genuinely fun for me to do. I love learning how the interworking of a webpage work and watching my work come to life. I am very proud of the website I have created for my mini-independent study. However, the one goal I did not reach was being able to host my website and make it live on the internet. Right now, my webpage is just an HTML and CSS files. Meaning you cannot actually type in a URL and find my webpage. In order to successfully host a website, you have to have a server. I did not have an extra computer to use as my server and I did not have to money to pay for server programs. So for now we just have the files.