LaToya Simon

Assignment #1

05-07-2022

Module 1.3 Assessment

1. Why are you taking this course?

I am not satisfied with life as a customer service representative for a call center. I am capable of so much more and I decided it was about time I started acting like it. In an attempt to force my own hand, I resigned from my position in April 2022 and decided to take a step back. Didn’t know what I wanted to do just yet but nobody learns by staying comfortable.

With the help of resources I found on my local library’s website, I found articles about jobs that are in demand right now. That was exactly what I needed. The light shined down on me! Next, after narrowing down which of these “in demand jobs” appealed to me the most, curiosity consumed me. Learning paths on Linkedin Learning, youtube videos, google reviews. I found myself down the rabbit hole. No idea how to start with so many different ways to get in. From self-taught prodigies to jobs that teach you the skills they need to hire you. Plus these handy dandy bootcamps filled with courses to have you job ready before my meager savings account turns into a sad memory? Say less. I’m in.

With a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice that seems to only have collected dust all this time, I know I have what it takes to start over. I know my preferred learning path to this field needed to be structured with the added benefit of changing my life right now. Bootcamps fit that description. I then took to google and youtube to find coding bootcamps with good reviews and tuition models for poor little old me who is just looking for a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel. As I submitted requests for more information and tried to find places with the fastest start dates, running into videos and reviews saying it wasn’t worth it started piling on from out of nowhere. To be honest I was almost discouraged. Then some youtubers said to do prep work before joining a boot camp to increase your chances of success and understanding. Honey, the light just flipped the switch right back on! Then, almost instantly after, people started recommending Thinkful. Which I had yet to come across. Seeing that you guys offered this prep course before starting was a huge determining factor for me. The next one was seeing that you offered a cost-of-living stipend to help your students cut out some of the stress while trying to learn also became a huge win for me. I really need that, I do hope I qualify for it, else cup of noodles every other day…. I suppose I can make that stretch if need be. It won’t be good for my diet… but sacrifices must be made to better ourselves.

I am taking this course so I can upskill myself to a better life. Everybody wants to be wanted. I want to be “In Demand”.

1. How do you see your life changing by learning web development?

By learning web development, I have a chance to greatly improve my quality of life. At this point, I have everything to gain by trying. This prep course gives me a chance to dive in with a plan. Honestly, all the hopping around I was doing searching for quality learning content gave me goosebumps. As a kid, I told myself I wanted to be a Cartoonist/Videogame Designer. I said I’d make may own characters and have the skills to make my own games and shows. A dream shot down by the harsh realities of not living in an area that supported that type of education. Software development? Not completely too far off from that castle in the sky. Little me had to do a double take. Its in demand and there are people willing to teach me, support me and nurture me. The pay outlook looks great and living paycheck to paycheck isn’t the adulthood dream we were promised. If I can learn this material, I will not only be able to secure job security, but the stress it could alleviate from being one short paycheck away from being homeless would be exponential.

1. Describe your ideal career.

My ideal career has me as an A list actress on the silver screens of the world. I am a social butterfly and the entertainment world consumes me. To pull emotions from the faces of the masses as their attention falls on me is a riveting image I’ll never be able to shake. I’m outgoing, not a comic but can be considered comic relief. Promise not to be a class clown. I do, I want to be in the movies. The concept of more money is there, yes. But that’s not what I am after. Again, it is the quality of life that comes from being paid well after each project you complete. That “Ra Ra” feeling of knowing you succeeded and everybody’s contribution made it a success. I want to feel good after a hard day’s work and be able to go to sleep knowing I get to wake up and do it again. Not that I have to.

My ideal career will take care of my financial needs and my mental ones. I’ll be able to get sick and recover without fear of having to choose between food and rent. If I need to or even just want to take a vacation for whatever reason, my job will respect me and value me enough to let me. I want the options to be able to afford and secure early retirement, with the job I’d love so much that I probably wouldn’t want to.

My ideal career is one that provides me with the security blanket I need to live. Being worried about securing things we need for basic survival hurts us and destroys us. With all of us so busy trying to survive we have no energy left to live. Pretty soon we won’t have the will to either.