# 4-1 Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

## Part One: Career Reflection

### 1. Have you changed your career plans? If so, what prompted this change? If not, why have you remained with your original plan?

I have not changed my career plans. I’ve stayed focused on software development and AI throughout the Computer Science program. I enjoy creating smart, useful programs, and I feel confident that this is the right path for me.

### 2. How has your thinking about your career evolved?

My thinking has become more clear and focused. At first, I wasn’t sure which area of computer science I wanted to go into. Over time, I found that I really enjoy back-end development and working with data, especially when it connects to user-focused design and AI. I now see myself going into a role that combines software engineering with AI.

### 3. Have you completed any research about your choice of career? How has this impacted your thinking? Have you thought about seeking an advanced degree or certification after earning your undergraduate degree?

Yes, I’ve looked into different jobs in AI and software development by reviewing job listings and skill requirements. This research helped me see how important it is to be strong in both programming and machine learning. I’m currently working on certifications while taking classes, and I plan to keep earning more as I go. I also plan to continue doing personal projects to grow my experience. I’m not planning to go to graduate school right away, but I might in the future depending on where my career goes.

### 4. Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?

I’ve made good progress on the outcomes related to software design and engineering, algorithms and data structures, and databases. I still need to finish the improvements for two of the areas and complete my ePortfolio. I’m confident I’ll meet all the required outcomes by the end of the course.

## Part Two: Status Checkpoints for All Categories

| Checkpoint | Software Design and Engineering | Algorithms and Data Structures | Databases |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Artifact Used | Sentiment Analysis Flask App | Python Sorting and Search Demo (CS-260) | Inventory Management System (CS-320) |
| Status of Initial Enhancement | Complete – Refactored into separate files with Blueprints | In Progress – Planning to improve structure and speed | In Progress – Updating SQL and database design |
| Status of Final Enhancement | Complete | Not Started | Not Started |
| Uploaded to ePortfolio | Yes | No | No |
| Status of Finalized ePortfolio | In Progress | In Progress | In Progress |