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Course: IT FDN 130

GitHub: [DBFoundations](#)

Final Reflection – Lessons Learned

This was my first academic course since graduating university in 2022, and it was my first course at the University of Washington. I just recently discovered that there were certificate programs available at UW. I am grateful for that discovery because I found this course to be extremely valuable to my education and I plan on continuing taking certificate programs in the very near future.

Prior to this course, I had no formal training in SQL and database creation, only a basic familiarity. One of my main takeaways after completing this course is having learned the reasoning and intention behind design choices when creating a database. For example, why abstraction is so important, or why creating ERDs and metadata spreadsheets is so valuable. Furthermore, I am even more confident in writing queries, especially since we had a lot of time to practice the key concepts throughout the course while simultaneously learning new concepts to build upon those key concepts. For example, learning and practicing how to create a CRUD statement (Create, Read, Update, Delete), then learning how to add error handling to that statement, and then finally how to turn that statement into a stored procedure or function.

One struggle I had during this course was keeping up with all of the material week to week. I was happy to see how much material was provided for each module, especially the module notes which were extremely helpful. However, I also prefer to take my own notes, and there were certain weeks where I only had time to learn the key concepts before tackling the assignment, so there are some modules that I want to revisit to flesh out my own personal notes. Despite the amount of material, it is all very rewarding when it is studied.

Overall, I really enjoyed this course, and I look forward to continuing my academic journey with SQL and data analysis at UW. Professor Root and Peltz were fantastic and very supportive. Thank you for a fun and informative two months!