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12/13/20

Narrative Final

**1. Briefly describe the artifact. What is it? When was it created?**

The artifact that I will be using is a website design that I am created in my website design class. It is a HTML code creating a decorative cup online store. It was created about 2 month ago in my previous class.

**2. Justify the inclusion of the artifact in your ePortfolio. Why did you select this item? What specific components of the artifact showcase your skills and abilities in software development? How was the artifact improved?**

I selected this item because I felt a real desire to improve my skills in HTML programing and felt a talent for it through the class. I truly like working on the project and I wanted to do more than the class wanted me to actually do. Since this ePortfolio is to show off our talents I decided to showcase something I actually like to do. I believe the whole artifact shows my skills, it shows how I’m able to come up with creative ideas and create it from scratch. I’m even to look at other ideas and transform them into something new. The class was only meant to create a design for the website, but I want to make the website as fully functional as I can. Adding a working database and cart system which will involve other forms of coding.

My overall goal was to use that knowledge I have gained through my time here at the university to build the working website. After getting everything working and completed, I would have to say that honestly the website isn’t 100% fully functional. I reached my goals for this project but things like a more advanced shopping cart that able to take you to a buying window and even the process to buy are steps that would require a lot more time on my end.

**3. Did you meet the course objectives you planned to meet with this enhancement in Module One? Do you have any updates to your outcome-cove rage plans?**

Here were my 3 goals for the assignment

1. Improving software design and engineering

When it comes to improving the overall software design, I wanted to add little more complexity to the design of the pages and simplify the overall site. The site used to be about 5 pages but after carefully review I realized that some pages where unnecessarily for the over all goal of the site which is for the customer to buy a cup. In the end I left the home, build, store, and about pages which two of those pages a geared to getting the customer to by a cup and the other to show of the designer. Adding a couple complex features so that the site can have a little flare, I also added a shopping cart to the store page but did not add one to the build page. The reason for this is because the customer will fill out a form to the designer which than the designer will be able to respond back and get any more information and payment need to build the cup. One idea I had to replace the form was to design a cup making feature to the site. This would save the designer time because instead if trying to figure out what the customer would like, the designer just has to make what the customer designed in the program.

2. Improving algorithms and data structure

When it came down to improving the algorithm for my code, my main goal was to make it organized and understandable as possible. Most projects in a career setting will require some type of team effort and the best way to ensure that the team knows what’s going on in the project is to keep things organized and labeled. I made the labels understandable, deleted anything that was necessary to the code, and kept the code neat and well organized.

3. Adding a database

Lastly, I needed to add a database for the build a cup form. I used a pre-made database that is now linked to my HTML code.

**4. Reflect on the process of enhancing and/or modifying the artifact. What did you learn as you were creating it and improving it? What challenges did you face?**

Throughout this project I would say that the challenges I faced the most was insufficient instructions and time management. For insufficient information, when looking up how to do the database some information should me the codes but never should me that need to have everything in a certain folder and other things. As for time management, working and school take up a lot of my time so I had to find that balance especially since I’m the type of person that want to do a complete overhaul of the design and wants to ass complex features to my HTML code.