Cumulative Reflection

Iowa state and the Software Engineering program has prepared me to do a lot of things. I have been put in situations where I am completely in charge of the design and implementation. And doing this gives me the challenge of choosing the best system and structure for that specific project. Doing this is a real-life issue that engineers go through every day. Doing this also helps me be able to see bugs and issues while I am programming so that I don't miss them for later on in the timeline. I have also gone through difficult classes such as algorithm classes that have put me in situations to have to solve very difficult, and very complicated engineering problems. These situations have allowed me to critically think my way to solutions to engineering problems. These problems are and very well could be global problems that other people deal with in their lives. These solutions, though difficult to be solve, are solutions that other people are looking for and need help with. So, if I am able to think about them and come up with a possible solution that may be different from someone else's solution, this can give people multiple options to choose which one fits best for their global situation. The decisions I make must always be thought of with ethical impacts in mind. Ethics is very important because that is how the quality of our product is thought of in our customers eyes.

The program and school have also prepared me in working situations. I have worked on many projects alone and on many projects in groups. I have worked in groups of 2, 3, 4, and even 5 people over the years. Working in groups gives me the opportunity to hear what other people in my situation think and work like. Another thing I have learned is being able to multi-task and being able to work on multiple things at once. When you have a few very difficult tasks to complete, time management and multi-tasking is a very important task, and Iowa State has helped prepare me for this which is being able to handle professional, ethical responsibilities.

Working with students really helped me be able to learn from them and be able to improve upon my own skills and answer class project questions easier and more efficiently. Working with my classmates has helped me a lot to prepare for my future endeavors.

In internship and opportunities outside of the classroom that Iowa State emphasized, this gave me opportunities to talk to professionals, learn from them, and see what information they have to offer about the future.

I have started my own project that I hope to improve and show to employers. I also hope to maybe one day use this project to create my own company and application. It is an application that helps with online shopping and expenses. I want to be able to search among thousands of stores one day to find a specific style of clothing that customers search for. Although it is not all the way done yet or thought out yet, I am excited to work on it and use it.

If I were to do this program again, I would hopefully start sooner, such as before starting my undergraduate so I can get a jump start on the information and what I am doing.