Coming into the class I honestly didn’t know what to expect. Last semester I had dropped out of Dr. Salib’s “coding” class so coming into it I honestly wasn’t very excited about another coding class. I didn’t set high expectations for myself off the bat which definitely affected the amount of work I got done throughout the semester. I was able to follow along for the first few weeks and had productive meetings with my group but outside of that I never really got the assignments done. I struggled to even get things going when trying some of the more basic assignments and really let myself fall behind to the point where I wasn’t doing much for the class at all. I’m pretty upset with myself for the minimal effort I put into the class as it’s not something I would usually do. I’m not totally sure why but the idea of coding never totally caught my interest and I didn’t make enough of an effort to even see if the possibility of me liking it was there. My goals, if anything, probably decreased over the semester throughout all of my classes and I kind of had a lazy semester as a whole. I started off the semester with a decent drive to get my stuff done but quickly my attitude changed. I had a new girlfriend during this semester which definitely didn’t help my work ethic and I just lacked overall motivation. In this class, I was not very successful, but I managed to do okay in my other classes while putting in little effort. What I did learn in this class and about coding is that probably every single resource you would need to learn to code and to become a better coder over time is all available online. I actually think it’s pretty amazing that people are so willing to help within the coding community and it makes it a much more comfortable field to work in. I don’t have a real excuse as to why I had such bad work ethic, but it was definitely a lesson learned this semester. Where I failed my goals was improving my work ethic this semester. I’ve always had a procrastinator type mindset and that definitely didn’t change even though I am conscious of it. What I’ve learned from all of this and this semester is that I need to keep myself on top of things and really strap down in the future. In order to do this, I will need to create goals for myself that I can achieve and work to reach them throughout semesters in the future. I think my plan will be to stay much more organized and on top of my assignment due dates so that falling behind is less inevitable. This will be important if I want to thrive more here at JMU and if I want to continue to progress the next couple years. When talking about the mission statement of JMU, I feel like this year I have gained a little education but not as much as I could have taken advantage of. My activities this semester have definitely contributed to me knowing myself better, as I probably did more partying than I should have and more than I ever have. It was probably the most fun semester I’ve had here besides my academic performance, and now I feel like I need to find a lifestyle that mixes partying and my schoolwork a little better. This semester was the first one where I finally began to branch out and meet new people which definitely made my life a whole lot more interesting. I was pretty much introduced to a whole new friend group some of which included people from ISAT, and some outside of ISAT. I mentioned earlier how I had a new girlfriend over the past year, and although that greatly contributed to my lack of school motivation, meeting her and spending all the time together that we did totally changed my life and shaped how my semester went as a whole. I started going to parties with her and she honestly just got me out of my comfort zone which was exactly what I needed. We pretty much self-quarantined together for the weeks of uncertainty following spring break and had a great time. After all that being said about her and I, the relationship didn’t last very long and we broke it off in April because of complications of not seeing each other very often lol. When all of this coronavirus stuff began happening, I was in Florida with my roommates not really caring and not expecting it to turn into what it has today. It definitely changed our semester here at JMU completely and it was a weird adjustment at first, but like anything I was able to get used to it over time. It wasn’t that being away from school made learning more strenuous, rather that I feel like it was easy to lose interest while not having to go to class every day and learn in person. Being at home 24/7 has been another weird adjustment, it is just odd coming from a life of total freedom to being back under your parents’ roof. I’m not saying being back home has been a bad thing, but I definitely miss not having to report to someone where I’m going or what I’m doing all the time. With all that being said I feel like I’ve pretty much laid out how my semester went down, academically speaking and extracurriculars. It was totally a semester to remember and some of the memories I made will last a lifetime. Writing this helped me refocus and re-center on what is really important though, and that is creating a balance of fun and work for myself. I think changing my mindset might be difficult at first, but this semester was definitely eye opening and it let me know that I need to get my shit together as soon as possible.