

ISAT 252 Narrative

Professor Benton,

So you asked us to write you a narrative about our experiences taking ISAT 252 this semester, so here we are. I'll preview how I plan to write the rest of this narrative. First I'll talk about my regrets about 252, then I'll talk about what I enjoyed, and finally I'll discuss how having taken 252 will affect my future experience. So now let's talk about the bad stuff.

This semester was insanely busy for ISAT students, as I'm sure you've heard. ISAT 253 and ISAT 212 are both very time demanding classes. Regrettably, because of the format of ISAT 252, I inevitably spent more time working on the other two ISAT classes more than I would have liked. I feel like for me, I absolutely need regular grades in order to motivate me to work properly in a class-like environment. The 252 lab reports were essential check-ups to see how well I kept up with the classes, but because of the lack of a grade being directly associated with each lab, I know I didn't always commit sufficient time to each lab. I tried to make sure I understood each lab assignment, but I'm sure I could have put in more. However, through the time I did put into each lab, I learned about what I enjoyed in 252.

I'd definitely say 252 was an enlightening experience for me. Though I didn't prioritize it like I wanted to, I still found the class to be enjoyable. Having a program I worked on correctly function felt extremely rewarding. The reward of having a program succeed as I wanted to was at least as rewarding as reserving a grade for an assignment. Honestly, I'd say it was probably more rewarding. It reminded me of how when I actually get to the real world, it's not really a grade I'd be receiving as much as it would be actually completing my plans to fruition. That something I'm sure all ISAT graduates can understand and relate to. If people can learn to enjoy their work, like I did when I had my program work properly, then I'd say that their living a fulfilling life.

By taking ISAT 252, I was to determine that I did indeed want to make IKM a concentration as an ISAT major. I am currently debating also making Computer Science a minor to compliment ISAT. I enjoyed programming in 252, and once I watched the full instructional videos in detail, I feel that I was fairly competent in understanding most of the core concepts (still a little shaky with arrays). Overall, I feel like I learned a lot about Visual Basic and Knowledge Based Systems and I think I will continue to learn more about other concepts of programming as I continue my ISAT career.