Chris Lacey

ISAT 252

4/3/13

My expectations and goals in this class were initially set fairly high. I was coming into this semester ready to focus on school and get what I needed to done. Shortly after classes started some other things popped up that made it difficult to put a lot of effort towards classes. I wanted to really learn code and how to program because I honestly believe it's the future and it's a language that many should know. The class wasn't at the top of the class-priority list since I had some manufacturing classes which is what I'm attempting to concentrate in within ISAT. However it was a class I considered important. My goals were set to where I wanted to have fun with learning code. Your class setup is a perfect place for low-stress learning and I was really excited about that coming into it. I still think it's a great way to learn in college.

I ended up spending very little time in this class, and actually not nearly as much time as I should have. I didn't come to enough classes because I would over sleep from stress about my family. I still had the time to do it between work and school, but each time decided to try and relax while I could. My time that could've been used for completing in-class material was instead used for trying to figure myself out. I was trying to figure out what was happening around me with my family and how to balance that with school and work. Then at the tail end I spent more time doing class related work with my teammates.

As far as accomplishing class work, I didn't accomplish a whole lot obviously. However I accomplished a ton of stuff with learning about myself that will be very useful in day-to-day life. I was able to accomplish being there for my family and take on the role of a parent. I was able to talk with my mom through these rough times. I was able to bring family and happiness back into her life. I accomplished so much more than I ever thought this semester, but it unfortunately wasn't school related. My priorities have been set since I was little that family will always come first. So as far as what I accomplished, school work was limited, but the bigger picture stuff was getting taken care of.

I learned tons about myself this past semester and having this class actually really helped me with that. How laid back this class was helped in so many ways and most of those ways I can't really explain. I learned that I can take charge of situations that call for it. Those situations are usually to help others because I've learned that I have an incredibly hard time helping myself. I have learned that I need people around me who show they care through actions, because just words don't mean a thing. I have learned that there is a much bigger picture around us than the one most students are focused on, which faults me since I spent less time in school, and more time soaking up the bigger picture. I learned that I can come up with positives in negative times for others however find it impossible to do the same for myself. How does this relate to your class? It doesn't really. Other than the huge fact that every time you asked about students who weren't in class to make sure they're okay is that simple action of caring. How you understood your students may not be going through perfect times in their lives. From day one when you explained why you take attendance it made me realize that it was okay for me to focus on

other priorities. It's tough for me to explain but I hope I can make more sense of it when we meet and talk.

I don't have too many plans as far as continuing programming. I do have plans to go to way more classes in the future than what I did for this class. My goals taken from this class is to wake up on time and get to class because only I can improve myself.

This style of class was perfect for the timing as far as what else I was going through in my life outside of a student. But I know I had troubles making myself focus outside of class to complete what I needed to. It's much easier to move work in a class with this style down on the list of things to do. However this style type shows a certain type of caring about students which made me really want to perform as best I could. It's a golden rule type of class in my opinion. Give you the respect you give us as your students by completing what you ask us to complete. I like the class style over all, however I had a hard time motivating myself to do the tutorials I needed to.

To be completely honest, with just the class work in mind I probably deserve a C. I would obviously like an A just because I had to do what I had to do back at home. I couldn't complete certain tasks either because my mind was elsewhere or I was physically elsewhere. But understanding that me figuring out my personal life isn't what your class required of me to do, I expect to receive the grade I deserve.

Sarah Lauren Miller

Dr. Morgan Benton

ISAT 252

7 May 2015

Reflection Paper

I would like to argue for an A in this class. If I hadn't had personal set backs this semester, I think I would have been able to finish all the assignments. While I did not complete every single assignment for the class, I learned a lot about programming. I used to play with html codes for fun, but I didn't realize how it could be used for practical purposes. This class made me realize that I can easily learn about programming and practice on my own. I became aware of all the resources on the Internet I can easily access over the summer to grow my knowledge of programming. I also expanded my knowledge of HTML codes and I hope to continue improving my knowledge over the summer and into the future. Before I took the class, I thought I my third sector would be biotechnology. However after taking this class I've signed up for the IKM sector classes. I can't wait to learn more about the subject.

What I learned went beyond just coding. Despite not having deadlines, I actually wanted to do the work. When I didn't because of other work due, I felt guilty. I wish I had spent more time doing the tests this semester. My regret of not learning more as well as other things going on in my life have forced me to really reflect on what I do with my time. I consistently stress myself out to be a perfect student, but I don't enjoy everything I do. I've been working constantly at the expense of my health in hopes it will benefit me some way in the future. My hair has thinned. I haven't been eating healthy. I don't have time to do

things that I want to do. I think I need to start figuring out what I'm intensely passionate about and put my effort into that.

I think the laid back atmosphere of the class is great, because it allows people to enjoy the process of finding out an answer, rather than just focusing on the finished product. In coding, the main problem is finding the answer, not necessarily coming up with the solution. It also allows you to figure out who really wants to do the work. In group activities, I think its best to have people who enjoy the subject matter. They are more likely to work hard and not complain about the work. This sort of set up will weed out people who don't like the subject matter because they'll see it as a waste of time. However I do think it would be helpful to do a point system. Some people still need motivation to get the work done, especially when other classes have large amounts of work. There are also a lot of people who take the class just to get an A, but don't actually do any sort of work. They're taking up space that people who are actually interested in the class could have been in and there's no way to hold them accountable.

Christopher Mihalkovic

April 28, 2013   ISAT 252

Portfolio

I did numerous tutorials using code academy

I am disappointed to say that I was unable to complete exam 1

Helped my team with the ISAT Honor Society program

Narrative

I wasn't really sure what to expect coming into this class. I had no prior programming experience, and honestly didn't even know what programming meant. It took me by surprise when I found out that this class would be mostly self-taught, but found relief in the fact that grades wouldn't be assigned for each task I was given. When I learned a little bit about programming, I thought it would be cool to make a program involving music, since I am a drummer. I thought I could possibly create something that would enable people to put together simple beats and melodies in a structured environment.

To be honest, my ambitions died a little each passing day. I began to think that I couldn't do this, and that there was no way I could teach myself how to program. I did my best to learn HTML, since that was the group I was assigned, but I knew that I just wasn't getting everything. Although I knew this wouldn't be a huge issue, I still found myself getting discouraged every time I tried to learn something and it just didn't click or stick. I was still wondering what direction this class was headed, and found it very difficult to stay involved in the class without much guidance. I knew that my programming idea might be a little too ambitious, and just decided to go with what my groupmates wanted.

I spent most of my time looking over tutorials using CodeAcademy , although most of the time I had to watch and practice things ten times before I really got it. I was able to contribute a little bit to the mileage converter, but mostly I just designed the layout. I wasn't able to complete Exam 1, which was pretty disheartening. Instead of getting back on the horse and riding it out, I spent the rest of the semester doing less than I should have for this class. I was only able to contribute minute details to our team project, which we spent nearly half the semester on. I let my other classes and outside activities heavily overshadow my assignments to this class.

However, what I learned and accomplished did not come from the course objectives. It came from my peers, and from the fellowship this class encourages. I rushed for a national honor fraternity Phi Sigma Pi this semester and was extended a bid. I went through the initiate process, which was no easy task. I spent over 60 hours interviewing people and learning different perspectives. I also spent over 10 hours doing community service, and more than 10 hours doing scholarship and leadership-building activities.

Through this process, I learned the value of hard work. But more importantly, I learned the value of camaraderie and encouragement. I found myself engaging with people in class more as a result of this process. It became easier for me to open up to people, and I made numerous ISAT friends along the way. This sounds easy, and it might be for some people. But before this semester, I had maybe one friend that was also an ISAT major. I saw each class as a drag, and was never motivated for anything. But this process, and the ideals that this class instilled in me, taught me that we are all working together. It taught me that companionship and togetherness with your peers is more important than competing with them. Because in the long run, I will be working with these people to shape what the world will become.

I learned that I can be an outgoing and caring individual if I let myself, and I never plan on changing this. However, I do plan on changing my work ethic. I took for granted an experience that I may never be given again- a class without grades. Towards the beginning, I merely saw this class as a chance to slack off, and never really thought any part of this class would be instilled in me. And now, I find myself meditating every week outside of class, doing yoga, and talking to new people, especially within ISAT. This class definitely helped me find peace of mind, and more importantly, taught me to never take anything in this life for granted. I did learn however, that programming is definitely not my field of choice. I get headaches just looking at computers.

I can't say that this style of class necessarily worked for me. I didn't learn as much as I wanted about the actual course content and programming skills. And although I can't say I would choose this style of structure again, I did gain experience in other ways by attending this class, as mentioned above.

With all being said, I think I do deserve an A in this class. This is not because I excelled in programming skills, but because I think I accomplished some of the underlying goals that you've wanted from us all along. I remember sitting and class and thinking how right you were when you said that we need to be a tightly-knit community and stop ignoring each other's needs. Well, I took that advice and so much more. I made ISAT friends, yes. But even more than that, I found people I can go to, and people that can come to me with anything. I found and am still creating a big group of ISAT majors who can help each other make this process easier, more efficient, but most importantly, fun. My biggest regret looking back is that I never shared words over a cigarette with you, Benton. Because maybe I could've realized my potential sooner; no, realized everyone's potential, and all the goals and subtleties in life that stay in the shadows.

I understand so much more than I did only a few months ago, so I would want you to report an A in the registrar.

Borg, Devin
252 programming
Morgan Benton

Narrative outline

This year has been a very interesting year; I have had some of the hardest courses in my educational career and some of the easiest. Programming however does not fall under either of these categories, and is a class of itself. Programming has been challenging due to the fact that every line of code is very responsive to input, reacts differently based on symbols, and has to be in a certain order for the computer to even process or understand it. These are the sources of difficulty as they are basically a grammatical code for computers. From previous experience I know that I do not do well with grammar of any type. As a result I have responded slowly to this course and the goals I have set for myself. With this class structure however I felt both lost and free at the same time, though it was extremely nice not to have to worry about grades or deadlines like a normal class, and even be able to choose the projects that one applies themselves too, I felt almost like was given too much freedom. During times of intense work for the rest of my classes I would commonly push the work for this class back and work on the other class's assignments. Even though I liked the flexibility of this, when projects came close to being presented I felt like I almost had ignored the goals that I was setting, even when I accomplished them. This type of class style though it worked for me, Is something that I need to get used to.

My favorite part of this class was the goal and expectations setting each week, even though the surveys were not my favorite. Throughout the semester I found myself trying to keep up with the things I wanted to accomplish inside and outside of class, and applying myself to complete each one in turn. I even continued to apply myself to previous long term goals that I had set, even before the onset of this course, and by the end of this course have seen the benefits and experience of completing some of them. My goals over the semester are interesting to watch, in the beginning I was constantly trying to take on too many tasks and in the middle of the semester when I was mostly working on all of my other classes, I was taking on too little for this class, but in the end I believe I was taking on the right amount of responsibility for my goals so as to balance with my other class work, and to balance out what I think is an appropriate amount of work for this course.
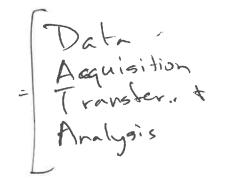
I believe the time that I have applied for this class was well spent. Though I thought myself to be behind many of the other individuals in my class, I realize that I wasn't behind, I was just going at my own pace. As previously stated I spent many hours on each topic just trying to get the grammar and the setup for each line of code correct. Even when I was working in groups and had someone helping me, or code academy giving my directions, I found that the only way that I really learned was to plug through it myself, find the issue, and learn to not make that same mistake again. It is from this that I have learned that I need to understand the basics before I can move on to the moderate or advance aspects of a topic. However I was able to accomplish putting multiple programs together, putting them up on the internet, figuring out how to research and use another's code to improve my own, to work in groups to both help solve and get help solving issues, and to see how different languages of code work. I have been able to become familiar with PHP, javascript, and CSS. I have also started to become familiar with ruby and python, however I am still strongest with javascript. Moving forward though I have enjoyed my time with programming I do not think

Borg, Devin
252 programming
Morgan Benton

that it will be excessive in my future as I do not click with it, I do still plan to move forward with the skills that I have been learning in this course so that if I wish to use them, I may be able to apply them more readily and easily as I see fit. Also moving forward I plan on continuing setting goals for my advancement in any area I see fit, but particularly in the areas of telecom, fitness, and time management.

It is because of all of the things that I have learned and applied myself to that I believe I should receive a low A in this course. I have applied myself to the goals I have set and have completed them to the best of my ability and understanding, and sought help if or when I could no longer understand them or help myself. I have contributed to each of the groups I have been in and learned something new from each, while helping to produce new and useful programs. I would prefer that if a grade were to be submitted for me to the registrar that it be between a B+ and an A-.

Flash Cards   Dan (AJ?)

Witty Kitty   Dan, Caitlin, Oliver, AJ

Data
Acquisition
= Transfer, &
Analysis

BIO | KNE. | ENV...
DATA

Brandon White
ISAT 252-1
April 29, 2013

252 Portfolio

1. My expectations and goals in this class were that I would learn the basic skills in computer programming, see what it takes to create a well put together program, and be able to decide if it is a good academic path for me to take.

2. Throughout the semester I have slowly started to fade away from hard work in 252 and I started to focus more on doing well in other classes.

3. Throughout the year I probably spent an average of about 3 hours per week, outside of class, working for this class.

4. I have learned basic skills and terminology in computer programming. I have learned about the prominent programs and software used to program. I assisted in the creation of a google maps program and a website that recommends users what to wear based on the weather. Also, taking this class has showed me what it takes to learn the art of computer programming, so I feel that if this ever strikes my interest in the future I can begin to learn about it again.

5. In the beginning of the semester I thought that being able to program would be a very cool skill to have, but attempting to complete some of the objectives in this class has showed me that I don't have as much interest in it as I might in other areas of study.

6. I plan on setting computer programming aside for now and focusing on my chosen sectors of study in ISAT.

7. In certain ways I thought this style of class was pretty cool because I could sort of go my own way with the course material, but this style of class requires the right amount of

interest and self-discipline in order to be productive and learn the material. Since I didn't have the interest and self-discipline, I didn't learn as much as I would've liked to in this class, but maybe that's ok since it has helped me decide to go on a different academic path of study.

8. I would like for an A to be reported to the registrar for my final grade.

Upon first hearing about the class and being given the Dr. Seuss' Oh, The Places You'll Go assignment, I wasn't completely sure what my expectations were. I figured that there would be a number of group projects and a group oriented setting, but that was about it. Programming has been something that my parents have been involved with in some way, shape, or form throughout my lifetime. There were instances where they'd talk about reading up on C language or something about Java. Then, of course, once I got deeper into school and had opportunities to participate in classes involving coding, they emphasized how important it would be to have experience with several languages and what not. So, in general, just seeing programming in the title of this course, I assumed that there would be class instruction regarding several languages used to code and program. It seemed like something that would fit well into the ISAT program. Initial goals for this class were, honestly, to just pass with a B or higher and proceed on. It seemed like something that wouldn't be too instrumental in my ISAT track otherwise, because I wasn't looking into IKM at all.

Of course, upon entering the class and seeing the teaching style and understanding the syllabus, my expectations and goals changed. I still expected the group work aspect to it, but I started to expect people to start coming up with genius ideas and recruit people in order to get their vision put into action. There was also the expectation that the bulk of the responsibility for this class would be placed on me, myself, and I. If I wanted to get things done, in a team or solo, I would have to self-motivate and coordinate things accordingly. That isn't what I was used to for the past thirteen years of my school "career", but there wasn't much of a choice in this case. My goals also faced a transformation. I became a lot more ambitious as time went on and wanted to get into things like Symfony or develop the simple coding that was made in the past into something much more complex. I also had a goal to contribute to the groups that I was in with more than what was expected of me.

As for how I spent my time, there were admittedly times when I wasn't completely focussed on this class. There were a number of weeks, though not more than two or so, where I wouldn't put in as much time as I wanted into a project or would end up just floundering around in one spot of code and didn't ask for help. For the most part though, I easily spent five or more hours every week on this class. The way that I did so wasn't always what might be expected, but I still did coding or read up on tutorials or looked through forums on coding and programming materials. There is a site called Tumblr that I spend a reasonable amount time on. Since I'm able customize the theme of my page or make extra pages to extend my main blog, there were times when I would mess around with an experiment with what could be done with HTML, CSS, Javascript, JQuery and something called webkit. It would help me keep nimble and involved with my coding even when I wasn't necessarily working on a project or was on a school break. I still feel like it was a good use of time. Towards the end of the semester, I found myself reading quite a bit on Symfony, Twig, MySQL, MongoDB, PHP, and other coding things. I wish I had been able to balance out the time between reading done and coding though.

There were a number of things that I was able to accomplish this semester, which was partially because of the time that had to be set aside and the amount of confidence that I developed regarding my skills. There were three projects that I have to my name: the MPG to KPL converter, the google maps display, and the Thumbtack idea that is still in development stages. In terms of coding or programming languages, HTML, Javascript, JQuery, CSS/CSS3 and PHP are the only ones that I can recall being involved with. All of the listed items besides JQuery and PHP are fairly well established in terms of my skill and confidence in them. JQuery and PHP have a lot more things that I'd like to explore before I can express any kind of mastery over them. On top of these things, I also learned about Git and GitHub, which really are wonderful

tools, MAMP and HTTP requests. I feel like I accomplished a number of the goals that I set aside for myself in weekly self-evaluations as well.

There were a number of things that I either learned about myself or was able to reinforce for myself. For example, I found out that the teaching style that is used in the class wasn't as much of a hassle for me as I thought it would be. There were points when I had no idea what I should do, but then realized that I could steer myself in whatever way I chose and put just about anything into action that I wanted to coding-wise. I was able to reinforce the idea that I do actually have a work ethic. The problem in the past has been that I don't sit myself down and decide that I'm going to get whatever needs to be done. Instead, I would flounder around and dance around the issue until it was the last minute or too late. I also discovered that I am a bit of a perfectionist once I really get into the things that I'm involved in. For some reason, seeing an item off center on a website or not quite getting the code to execute in the way I wanted would drive me crazy until it was fixed (or not). Lastly, I think I can say that I learned that I genuinely enjoy the company and ideas of others. Ever since moving from an elementary school I had been at for four years, I've never real had much of an inclination to interact with a lot of people. Some might would have considered it a mild social anxiety, but part of my just really wasn't interested because it occurred to me that it was too hard to keep up with everyone in the way I wanted. Thus, I took to hanging out with small groups of people or just doing things on my own. Being in this class and needing to depend on others and having to coordinate with others, it allowed me to open up more in terms of friendship and getting along with people. I was even able to make a friend of sorts from all this.

Goals as I move forward into the work world and "life" would be to continue coding and programming on my free time. Maybe not all of it, but I'd be more than willing to work on it in chunks throughout my summers and breaks. I think it would be cool to become even more versed in Symfony and be able to show others what I can do. I also plan to look into internships and careers that use these skills in some way, shape, or form. I also want to incorporate the things that I learned in the class and in the past to any personal websites I create in the future or forums. It would be nice to use the graphics that I also am interested in on a site that I coded. It would be like seeing everything come together and it could all be a Dawkins original, more or less.

This style of class actually doesn't work out badly for me. In terms of having the time to focus on my other classes and really be engaged in them, it allows me to allot the time or shift whatever times so that I can work on what I need to in other ISAT classes that might be a hassle for me. At the same time, I also find that there is always something to do for this class. Since we are told about the portfolio in the beginning of the year, there is always a chance for self-improvement and generating something that is useful and can be put towards the end of the year. This teaching style also encourages self-management, which I've always struggled with and always felt could use an improvement.

In terms of grades, I genuinely believe that I deserve a B, but wouldn't mind having an A reported in the grade book.

Armand Jennings
Portfolio Narrative
ISAT 252

Armand's Narrative Portfolio

This class, ISAT 252, I have learned many things. I had plenty of goals at the start and plenty of expectations. From what Mr. Benton said, my goals were to learn how to code and to create apps for websites. I would also find ways to solve problems and understand how computers would in different ways. My expectations of the class were similar to my goals. Mainly, I believed that I would be able to learn all this code and computer language and use it to my advantage in the future. I thought that I would be able to analyze problems and find solutions to these problems. I was ready to do these goals and more. However, over the course, my goals and expectations evolved drastically. I found out that in actually, the way I tried to go about solving problems for this class was more difficult than I thought. The class was very difficult for me to manage along with my other school work. I wanted to learn how to code and analyze programs using notepad, java script and git hub. These goals turned to into actually trying to catch up with everyone else in the class. When it came to learning and writing code, it was harder for me to learn even with the help of different tutorials. My goals in the class changed to actually trying to learn how to write code better and get the basics down. My expectations also change into my team members helping learn about the code and help them in different ways no matter how small. I felt bad not being able to help my team but I still felt like I played a role in helping them out with our projects. I spent my time not only preparing for other courses but learning how to code for this class was also high on my list of things to do. I

would try to learn as much as I can and did tutorials such as youtube videos and net.tutplus.com.

In all honesty, I didn't accomplish as much as I wanted to. I did the weekly self-evaluations as well as the projects that we had to work on in groups. I did tutorials for javascript, html and github as well as learned a little about phone gap. I wanted to learn more, but with everything else going on including death of a close friend back at home and other classes I couldn't do as much. I definitely helped a little bit when it came to the Witty Kitty project that I did with my group. I didn't do most of the code but I helped find websites to find out how to code buttons and even tried to code some myself. I also worked on git hub and tried to set things up there but it was done by someone else in the group. I was also charged with the task of figuring out what else we could put on our website/app. I thought a way we could put pneumonic devices but it was too late to try to do that. I myself, tried to write code but it didn't work out so well.

I learned myself that coding isn't really for me. As interesting as it is, I don't think I can manage learning all about how coding works or writing programs. When it comes to analyzing problems I usually need help from other people. I can analyze and solve problems myself, but with a team I more active and I can think of more ways to solve problems quickly. In this class, I've shown that I can get work done with my team but by myself I can only go so far. The goals I have moving forward from this class are to work on my problem solving skills myself and to also become more organized. However, this style of the class was great because it helped me learn many things about myself. It was also a good break from all the other usual classes that I had. It made me see that I had a lot to learn when it comes to ISAT.

Overall I think the grade that I deserve is a C+ to a B-. This is because I know I didn't do as much work as I should. I know it was a hard semester for everyone so I am pretty upset with myself for not being able to get as much done as I wanted. The grade I am asking for is a B+. I know it's a stretch but overall I still did the work that I could. I had to deal with some deaths this year as well as stress from being in a new major. I did my best to keep this class in my top priority and never put in the back of my mind. I think with all the issues I had to deal with, a B+ would help me be satisfied this year.