**Biography Exercise: Showcasing Your Web Development Journey**

**Objective:** Create a professional biography that highlights your journey in web development, emphasizing the skills and experiences gained over the three years of your college program. This exercise aims to help you articulate your technical abilities and present a compelling narrative for potential employers.

**Instructions:**

1. **Introduction (Approx. 100 words):**
   * Begin with a brief introduction about yourself.
   * Mention your name, current status as a web development student, and the college program you are completing.

My name is Janelle Chandass and I am a student of the Post Graduate Diploma in Digital Design and Development – Web Development Stream.

1. **Educational Background (Approx. 100 words):**
   * Share key aspects of your educational journey.
   * Highlight specific courses, projects, or achievements that have shaped your skills in web development.

Education, at any level, at any time of your life, is extremely rewarding. While challenges have arisen, navigating these have taught me valuable, non-academic lessons in adaptability, time-management, work-life balance and productivity. At NIC emphasis is placed on active learning, so I have had to explore learning material that deepened my understanding of concepts, perhaps more so than if I had been presented with a clearly defined instruction set by a lecturer. Throughout all my courses at NIC I have had to work through projects of varying sizes, some with set specifications which the entire class had to replicate, some where we were allowed variations and some where we had a high degree of leeway.

1. **Technical Skills (Approx. 150 words):**
   * List and elaborate on the technical skills you have acquired during your three years of study.
   * Include programming languages, frameworks, databases, and any other relevant tools you've become proficient in.

Coming into this program I had completed a few art courses as well as, knowledge in programming and web development, but the latter was no longer industry relevant. I have become proficient in several languages, environments and tools: Adobe Suite (particularly Illustrator, InDesign and XD), GitHub, Visual Studio Code, HTML and CSS. I am also competent in Java, JavaScript and BootStrap.

**Notable Projects (Approx. 150 words):**

* + Showcase 2-3 significant projects you have worked on during your college program.
  + Briefly describe the goals, challenges, and solutions implemented in each project.
  + Emphasize how these projects demonstrate your practical application of web development skills.

1. **Internship/Work Experience (If applicable, Approx. 100 words):**
   * If you have completed internships or gained work experience, briefly outline the roles and responsibilities.
   * Highlight any real-world applications of your web development skills.
2. **Personal Achievements and Contributions (Approx. 100 words):**
   * Mention any awards, recognition, or contributions you have made to the web development community.
   * This could include participation in coding competitions, open-source projects, or relevant community involvement.
3. **Future Goals and Aspirations (Approx. 100 words):**
   * Conclude with your future goals in the field of web development.
   * Discuss your aspirations, such as specific areas of specialization, projects you want to undertake, or any advanced studies you plan to pursue.

I hope to work as a graphic designer or UX/ UI designer. As a graphic designer I can easily see myself working for different clients to create digital or print products. Aa a UX/ UI designer, I think working within a company or agency setting would be beneficial to my professional growth. Either pathway will require continued learning and mentoring and further specialization or formal educational will be dependent on my work experience.

1. **Folding Your Biography into a Capstone Project (Approx. 250 words):**
   * Given you goals and your skills, identify the area of specialization you can best express yourself in during the Capstone.
   * Outline your ideas for your Capstone project.

I can showcase my technical skills in HTML/CSS by building a website or application. At the same time, I can demonstrate my graphic design and UX/ UI skills and knowledge by applying design principles I have learnt to the website, incorporating work created with Adobe Suite and using UX tools such as user personas, user stories and wireframes.

My ideas for the Capstone are:

* A portfolio website, displaying pieces/ projects from the DGL program. For these pieces or projects I will:
  + Describe the tools or any special tool features used to create them
  + Highlight important aspects of code
  + Explain the work process, including the use of UX tools such as wireframes and mock-ups
* A UX design tutorial website, outlining the Design Thinking Process and describing tools and techniques used, I will:
  + Describe the process overall, as well as each stage
  + Describe tools and techniques used at each stage, provide examples, suggested software or tools for creation

**Tips:**

* Keep the tone professional and focus on key achievements and skills.
* Use action verbs to describe your experiences.
* Tailor the biography to the type of jobs or opportunities you are targeting, specifically that or those you identified in the employment exercise!
* Be SURE to fold in any feedback or suggestions you received in-class, including the ideation exercises!

Include your Toggle report at the end of your biography.  Please submit your biography in the form of an MS Word document and create a corresponding page on your Github wiki.

For this capstone project I will create a tutorial website which provides novice developers with knowledge and examples of UI/ UX design to help them develop websites and applications.

The tutorials will include

* Principles of UX/UI design
* Research
* User stories
* Wireframes
* User testing
* Mock-ups

Having an opportunity to work on a UX/UI design guide that can help developers work more effectively and creatively is exciting for me. As a student, I sometimes did courses out of sync, where I learnt about useful concepts after I needed them. I also faced the challenge of not having a comprehensive guide in one place early on in my studies.

I have spent the last two years studying web development and design principles, completing courses in HTML/ CSS, JavaScript, Graphic Design, Writing Digital Content and UX/ UI Design. During this time, I have had the opportunity to research, plan, design mock-ups for, test and build apps and websites. I have used several languages and tools, including: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SCSS, Visual Studio Code, GitHub, Adobe XD, Adobe Illustrator, low-fidelity and high-fidelity wireframes, user stories.

All my projects have not been as successful as I would have liked, but I have learnt from all of them. While I am stronger in aspects design, I have steadily improved my web-development skills. However, I am still working to improve my project management skills and given the scope of this project, it is a good opportunity for me to set the bar higher for myself regarding this skill.

Apart from the languages and tools I know, I am a highly-focused and detail-oriented individual with strong communication skills, capable of working well within a team or on my own.

I am confident that I can build a fully-functional and responsive website that contains well-organized, relevant and useful content about the principles and applications of good design.