# Reflective Summary: Version Control in Project Management

Version control has been an indispensable tool in managing the FC724 Web Design Project. Its primary benefit lies in its ability to track and document each change made to the codebase. This granularity not only aids in pinpointing when specific changes were introduced but also simplifies debugging by identifying the commit that may have introduced an error. Version control enables us to maintain a comprehensive history of our project's evolution, which is invaluable for both analysis and educational purposes.

Throughout this project, version control facilitated a disciplined approach to development, allowing individual features to be developed in isolated branches without affecting the main or 'production' codebase. This capability meant new functionality could be created, tested, and refined without disrupting the continuity of the user experience for existing features.

Looking forward, as the project scales and the team expands, version control's role becomes even more pivotal. Branching, a core feature of version control systems, would allow multiple team members to work on different features simultaneously. Each member could work in their dedicated branch, avoiding conflicts with the work of others. This approach not only optimizes development time but also encourages experimentation, as changes in branches do not impact the stability of the main codebase.

The use of 'pull requests' introduces a peer review system, ensuring that new code is reviewed by teammates before it is integrated. This process enforces coding standards and collective code ownership, which are key to maintaining quality in a collaborative environment. Additionally, features like 'merging' facilitate the seamless combination of multiple development streams, enabling a cohesive and updated application at the end of each development cycle.