**Self-Assessment**

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Throughout my education in Computer Science, I was presented with the endless opportunities this field offers and given the chance to dip my toe into a variety of niches requiring a software engineer. This allowed me to focus on my passion and gain the skills required to develop full stack applications from start to finish in team environments. Through the use of Agile and Scrum methodologies, I concentrated on an iterative, adaptive approach to software engineering which incorporated clear communication and collaboration with teammates VIA code reviews, git version control on projects with multiple developers, and daily Scrum meetings. These methodologies also granted me experience communicating to stakeholders in relation to their products, including clients and end-users, in order to develop a high-quality end-product that is tailored to their specific needs and adapts to requested changes.

The development in question revolved around continuously reworking and refining existing code as needed to utilize data structures and algorithms in an efficient, readable manner. Additionally, I’ve developed several CRUD applications as well as video game applications which employ the use of databases to organize and store both client and user data as needed. Furthermore, my experience in software engineering granted me a new perspective as an end-user, which aided me in adopting a security mindset for building secure code. By recognizing vulnerabilities in outside applications I’ve tested as an end-user, the importance of secure code and utilizing automated security tools for additional security checks has been emphasized in my education.

My artifact presented in my portfolio is a collective representation of the knowledge I have gained throughout the Computer Science program and aligns with the target of my career goals. This is a full stack project encompassing skills from three categories of Computer Science including Software Engineering & Design, Algorithms & Data structures as well as Databases. I intend on specializing my career in full stack development, as I enjoy working on a product from beginning to end, seeing all the necessary components come together to create a cohesive end-product. This capstone allowed me to showcase the strengths and skills I’ve honed during this program, including frontend development, backend development, managing databases, and connecting all these pieces together to form one cohesive project, a Contact Manager using React, Spring Boot, and MongoDB.