

Telvin Marikio Kararu C025-01-0590/2020

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology

# FROM CHILDHOOD TO CODE

---

A Journey of Faith, Resilience and Innovation

# Who am I Today and Purpose of The Story

- I am an aspiring Information Technology professional, shaped by faith, education, and a desire to use technology for social good.
- The autobiography traces my journey into IT.
- It reflects on passion, ~~resilience, and growth in the tech field.~~
- It shows how challenges and opportunities shaped my IT path.
- It connects past experiences to current skills and future goals in technology.

# First Encounters with Computers

First formal exposure to computers through structured computer studies.

- First formal exposure to computers came in school through computer studies.
- The computer lab quickly became a favorite learning environment.
- Curiosity about how computers work turned into a strong interest in IT.
- Early lessons showed that computing is central to modern life.



# Building Foundational IT Skills

---

Early computer studies provided the basic tools and habits needed to grow in information technology.

- Learned basics of computer systems, operating systems, and office applications.
- Gained practical skills in word processing, spreadsheets, and databases.
- Was introduced to basic programming concepts and simple programs.
- Discovered that structured thinking and problem-solving are core to IT.

# Choosing and Committing to an IT Path

---

As my interest in technology grew, I had to compare different academic and career options. This stage of the journey was about weighing where I had come from against where I wanted to go, and deciding whether IT was just a useful skill or the core focus of my future.

## Path 1 – General Career Direction

- Follow a broader, less specialized career path with limited focus on technology.
- Rely mainly on basic digital skills without deep technical expertise.
- Have fewer opportunities to design solutions or build software products.

## Path 2 – Focused IT Career

- Specialize in information technology and deepen skills in programming and systems.
- Invest time in learning tools, frameworks, and architectures used in real projects.
- Open doors to roles in software development, systems support, and technical leadership.

# Deciding to Pursue an IT Degree

- Reflected on personal strengths and interests after finishing secondary education.
- Explored different career paths and kept returning to technology-related options.
- Chose to pursue a degree in Information Technology as a natural next step.
- Saw IT as a field with room for innovation, impact, and lifelong learning.

# University IT Studies: Foundations

---

- Studied core units such as programming, database Systems, networking, and web development.
- Learned structured programming and object-oriented approaches.
- Built a foundation in data structures, algorithms, and software design.
- Gained appreciation for teamwork and documentation in software projects.

# Challenges in the IT Journey

---

- Faced difficult units such as Calculus and Probability & Statistics.
- Experienced academic setbacks that affected progress in the program.
- Went through a period away from studies that tested confidence and motivation.
- Learned to view setbacks as temporary and part of growth in a demanding field.

# Returning, Recovering and Growing in IT

---

- Returned to university determined to complete the IT program.
- Retook challenging units with a new strategy and mindset.
- Sought support from peers, mentors, and personal reflection.
- Completed the degree with a stronger sense of resilience and focus.

# Practical Skills: Clubs, Communities and Certifications

---

- Joined tech communities and clubs focused on programming and innovation.
- Participated in projects, hackathons, and peer learning sessions.
- Learned modern languages and frameworks for mobile and web development.
- Earned certifications in networking, operating systems, and cloud fundamentals.

# Projects and Real-World Application

---

- Developed mobile and web projects addressing sustainability and agriculture.
- Practiced full-stack development: front-end, back-end, and databases.
- Completed an internship applying IT skills in a professional environment.
- Learned to gather requirements, debug systems, and support end users.

# Future Ambitions in Technology

---

- Aim to become a highly skilled software and mobile developer.
- Intend to contribute to open-source and local tech communities.
- Plan to build or join socially responsible tech initiatives and startups.
- Desire to mentor others and use technology as a tool for positive change.

# THANK YOU!

---

Telvin Marikio Kararu

Email

[kararu.telvin20@students.dkut.ac.ke](mailto:kararu.telvin20@students.dkut.ac.ke)