

Some of the highlights of taking this course are for sure learning a new language of code, even if it is only at the basic level for myself. I firmly believe it's always a good thing to learn a new technical skill. I liked learning that it was a creative code, in the sense of whatever you could think of, you could likely create. It seems like there could be an endless amount of ideas you could generate with this language and software.

I had high hopes for myself with this class that it would come easy like web design with html, css etc. but it has proven completely different. I noticed I really struggle with the visual aspect of writing the code, I catch myself sometimes repeating or rewriting the code twice. It visually confuses my brain and I often have to step away for a moment or two before I can go back and re-read the code. The other challenging element for myself is memory and retention. I can follow along with the videos fine and understand what each section does while I am doing it. If you asked me to redo what I just did immediately after watching the video. I wouldn't be able to. I personally find it very frustrating because I am doing everything to pay attention. I've asked for help when I don't understand something. I've gone back over previous examples/videos. I also have taken extra time to go look at a function or variable that is really confusing me and written it out and broken down the code visually. I'd often have to refer back to this way and it seemed to help or stick in my mind a little bit better.

I am happy I did learn to create/draw visual effects. In my search for love code with help, I created an ekg line. It was so hard trying to think of what the steps were in order for me to start creating it. In my mind I wanted to take it a step further and actually have the line picking up and outputting a heart beat. Like you would see if you were hooked up to a monitor. I wasn't able to figure out my next steps for that in time so I had to sacrifice that aspect of my intention.

Although I am not at the level of my peers in this classroom I still hope that one day it will just click and make sense. I had a similar issue when learning how to code with html and css and then one day while I was looking at it - everything just clicked. I want to be able to fully understand without having to keep referring to previous examples because I would love to create small little mini projects for my artistic practice. I had experimented with TouchDesigner in the past. It was easy to pick up, because it was more node/visual based to create generative artworks. I would hope that I can get the fundamentals down so I can start creating my own code to create generative artwork. I have a few ideas in my mind; I want to be able to fuse the technological skills with my indigenous culture, particularly with stories of the Nakota (assiniboine). We are such a small culture and community and I would love to see more representation of Nakota among the indigenous new media artists. I want to be able to create mini interactive experiences or stories on the web, generate audio

reactive visuals, or to create apps that allow interactivity between the device, web and projected visuals.