**Reflections Assignment**

I really liked the first half of the class that focused on Python and SQL as these were the skills that I aimed to learn through this class. I have learned a lot so far from the coursework and have achieved my personal goal in learning the basics of these languages to better myself as a research manager professionally. While very interesting, the web app development part of this program is challenging and less applicable to my current professional role. Regardless, I appreciate learning the types of technologies that are new and being used in the field and the types of data visualizations that are available for use.

One of the challenges with this class in particular has been class size. I realize that this class size is larger than past classes, but I think the instructor and team have done a good job at pivoting to support all students. In particular, we have a terrific instructor who spends a lot of his personal time to further our learning outside of class time. I so appreciate his support and dedication to furthering our educational experience as part of this program.

On a personal note, the pandemic has been a challenging time and has moved education fully to online learning. I think that GWU has done a good job to facilitate the learning experience virtually. Having a virtual experience has actually led to the opportunity for a wide variety of students to participate, which has I believe enhanced the educational experience (e.g., individuals at all stages of their careers including college students). While not ideal to be in a virtual environment, I am very glad this class was still available, as if we had not been in this pandemic period, I would not usually have the opportunity and time to participate.