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HUDK 4050

Reflection Essay

As the technology develops and gradually participant everywhere in our daily life, I realized that it is important to learn more about technology, data mining, and coding. I believe that learning more about the new technology world will benefit my daily life and brings convenience for my study in school or even my career in the near future. This class caught my eyes since it combines both technology and my major, education together. I had taken Statistics and Calculus during high school and college time, and I believed this little math background provided me a good base at the starting point of taking this class. With a little background in coding, I was very interested in learning more about coding (Python) in this class to solve real-world problems, providing me a good base in solving more practical problems in my future career.

During the semester, I have learned a lot from different methods, functions, and logic through ICEs, ACA, and the creative project. This class helped me in using Python as a beginner; more importantly, I have learned how to use Python to solve some real-world problems, such as clustering, social network analysis, linear regression model, etc. I think the ICEs were helpful because it provides step-by-step explanations of each code and the logic behind it. I also find it was very challenging when I’m facing ACA projects since these projects required students' good understanding of the class materials and ICEs. It took me time to “digest” the materials we learned from the class and ICEs and apply them to the ACA projects and solve the problem with Python. Luckily, I worked and discussed with my teammates a lot, and we also did a lot of research online to help us solve the problems. As the semester went fast, we learned that to complete the ICE with fully understanding and then try to apply the method we learned from it to the ACA projects. In our final creative project, we also learned to apply what we learned from the entire semester into the project by applying not only one single method or function in Python to help us solve the problem.

In the near future, I’m looking forward to studying more in Python and finding out how I can apply the technology to my education major to solve more real-world problems efficiently. The course gave me a very good step in exploring the world of data mining; it brought my interest in exploring more the connection between education and data mining. The teamwork projects also taught me the importance of communication with other people. We could always find more useful ideas when communicating with each other. We learned a lot from each other through the process of teamwork. The combination of education and data mining undoubtedly provides more opportunities in solving more real-world problems efficiently. I believe it is very useful and practical in supporting us in our future careers. Even though I haven’t decided what kind of job I will apply to in the near future, but I do see this class brought me a broader view of the opportunities in Education with technical supporting.