Careers in Web Design and Development

I love that we were given the opportunity to learn about different career paths within web design and development this semester. I came into this class having a very basic understanding of the concepts of web design and program development, but my understanding was reinforced as I completed the assignments learning about Frontend Web Developers, Backend Web Developers, and SEO Specialists.

The first career path we examined was focused on Frontend Web Development. I have to say, out of all the career options we learned about this semester, frontend would be the one I'm most interested in. When I first chose to switch my major, I chose Web Design and Development because I LOVED the idea of creating intricate, appealing, and well-run websites. I was intrigued by the creative side, the artistic side of it. So, creating HTML and CSS, or simply taking the needs of a client and going from creating wireframes to implementing the design into an actual website really intrigues me! I think that I could be happy working in the realm of Frontend Development throughout my career.

The second career path we studied was Backend Development. I have to say, with the experience that I've had thus far in my degree, JavaScript and Java both freak me out! I have studied the basics of JavaScript thoroughly, but I still struggle to understand it. Coding doesn't come naturally to my understanding. However, when I do figure it out, I get so excited. I am currently looking for outside help to really hone my coding skills, because that is the hardest part of school for me right now. I would love to become a Full Stack Developer, and rock at both frontend and backend programming. However, I have come to terms with my own limitations, and feel that I will likely lean into the frontend world.

The last career path we looked at was SEO Specialists. I briefly worked for my brother-in-law's marketing company, doing social media marketing for a few small Amazon clients, and optimizing around social analytics. I had the opportunity to work with several SEO specialist and came to have a basic understanding of what their work entailed. I think that I could be successful at the SEO analytic world, but honestly, it doesn't interest me as much as working with HTML and CSS.

I love my graphic art classes I've taken thus far for my degree. I can get completely lost in a project in Photoshop, InDesign, or Illustrator (my personal favorite). I think, if it were an option, my degree would be Graphic Design. So, having to stick with Web Design and Development, I hope that I can find a successful career path where I can utilize what I've learned from both areas, graphic design and web design and development. I love the creative side of making website and making them function. I just hope I can find the right career path that balances out my interests and something that I can get really excited about.

Word Count: 510