4-1 Journal: Career Choice and Artifact Update

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CS499 Computer Science Capstone

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Part One:

1. **Have you changed your career plans? If so, what prompted this change? If not, why have you remained with your original plan?**

I’ve been in the IT and telecom field for well over twenty years. I have been in the field for most of those years, an engineer (Mostly network and SIP) for the rest. The original plan was to secure a bachelor’s degree, and transition from a tech in the field to the engineering side for the rest of my career. I enjoy the field I’m in, and the purpose for this degree is to continue further in the IT/Telecom industry. Many government opportunities are very strict on bachelors’ degree requirements.

1. **How has your thinking about your career evolved?**

My thinking about my career has always been consistent. I started in the industry at the advent of broadband, branching out to IT with an AAS in network systems, moving into SIP engineering from there, followed by network analyst, WAN technologies, and IT support positions.

1. **Have you completed any research about your choice of career? How has this impacted your thinking? Have you thought about seeking an advanced degree or certification after earning your undergraduate degree?**

I had come into this program with an aim to further my current career into the higher paying government positions, which require an undergraduate degree most of the time, while others require an advanced degree, I don’t believe I will seek a higher degree. I have found an appreciation for database administration through this program,

1. **Which course outcomes have you achieved so far, and which ones remain?**

I have completed the first two artifact enhancements and the code review. I am waiting for feedback on the artifacts and will be beginning the third and final artifact next week. Once feedback is provided and improvements are made, I will bring all the elements together into the ePortfolio.

Part Two:

Use the following Status Checkpoints table to document your progress in each of your three category enhancements. Complete the table with a report on each category, including its status and some details. For instance, if you are working on the initial enhancement for your work in the databases category, you would briefly note which enhancements you have completed and which are still to come in that cell of the table. Also, note any trouble spots or places where you may need help. A sample exemplar can be found in the Reading and Resources section of the course.

**Status Checkpoints for All Categories**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Checkpoint** | **Software Design and Engineering** | **Algorithms and Data Structures** | **Databases** |
| **Name of Artifact Used** | CS260 Data Structure and Algorithm LinkedList (C++ version) | LinkedList (Python version) | Linked List (enhanced version) |
| **Status of Initial Enhancement** | Enhancement completed. Ported to python | Enhancement completed | Not yet started |
| **Submission Status** | Submitted waiting for review and feedback | Submitted waiting for review and feedback |  |
| **Status of Final Enhancement** | Waiting for feedback | Waiting for feedback | Waiting for feedback |
| **Uploaded to ePortfolio** | Not implemented yet | Not implemented yet | Not implemented yet |
| **Status of Finalized ePortfolio** | Not implemented yet | Not implemented yet | Not implemented yet |