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Term Paper

Visual Basic class is an important component for my interview plan in my effort to get a job in the computer field for a multitude of reasons. The results provided me with the honing of skills, the learning of a new computer language and the ability to combine the knowledge and skills to become more effective in working with others. The completion of the class illustrates to potential employers the fortitude and willingness to put forth additional effort and challenge myself. The course and program is a definite plus in discussing career aspirations and provides a foundation for potential employers to reference. It clearly shows my desire and ability to learn is there to be utilized for the employer.

First and foremost the Visual Basic course increased the skill base from which to draw. The fact that it was an online course displays the ability to manage time, which demanded better computer oriented communication and required independent working in order to meet deadlines. Those skills are useful in any vocation and are invaluable within the computer field. As the course progressed, time management was critical in order to accomplish coding more effectively. Furthermore the course demonstrated the need to establish effective communication, which was apparent from the beginning. Learning to utilize problem solving skills and search online for solutions to problems encountered during the class will prove to be an important resource in the future. As with any good resource one needs to know how to use it to obtain useful information. As the course progressed it exposed the vast resources accessible online. As a result, additional proficiency can be acquired with some time and effort via an online connection. With this knowledge it will be easier to keep abreast of changes and new developments in the industry.

Learning the Visual Basic Language and the Graphical User Interface with its controls and methods behind those controls establishes the ability to efficiently write and maintain code. The course also provides a foundation on which to build with other languages such as C, C#, C++ and Python. As with much of the learning process once one skill is attained, similar skills are easier to build upon. Visual Basic then becomes just one of many tools that can be pulled out of the toolbox as needed. Even the textbook becomes a valuable reference until proficiency becomes such that other materials become necessary. The skills learned become the base for all future computer skills.

 Since much of the work in computers is the maintenance of programs, the capability to identify problems and fix them is invaluable. Additionally, since an increasing amount of equipment is controlled or has an electronic device requiring some code within it, the computer field will need more people to repair and troubleshoot those appliances. The exponential growth of smartphones and the ever increasing marketplace for apps broadens the range to which those skills can be put to use.

Finally, by combining the skills and the knowledge it becomes evident that with ambition and motivation the opportunities have increased dramatically. The ability to listen effectively, identify the problem, communicate with other people , research online, communicate with people online and work efficiently toward a timely and effective solution are valuable skills. In addition as new skills and knowledge are needed the wisdom to know how and where look for solutions, be it online, in a reference book or from other people can never be overrated.

This course will be a great resource, not just in practice, but in landing employment as well. Visual Basic is a great example that I can speak to with my academic career during the interview process with a prospective employer. Two examples of this would be the midterm and the final projects. The midterm required creating an app that simulated of a four function ten key calculator. While simple in design the code required to add functionality to the backspace key required some online research while it was also necessary to maintain the regular classwork schedule. Similarly the final project required the creation of data files, reading the data into a program, comparing that data with user inputted data then reading a second data file and comparing it with a key from the first data file to see if there was a match. By talking about the experiences and achievements during the course, an employer will get concrete and real examples of what I am capable of and how I can positively impact the workplace on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. These show that I am capable of working with a team and also independently to achieve a mutually beneficial experience for myself as well as the company.

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