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IDS 493 Reflection:

    Introduction-

My degree is cybersecurity, in which I try my best to learn and help people keep their devices safe and secure from ongoing/evolving threats in the digital world. But there is also my time at ODU, where I learned various skills and techniques to help me in my future career(s). One such skill that I've learned at ODU is persistence. Upon entering an entirely new environment, I would come face to face with obstacles that seemed overwhelming and tedious to my liking. With no skills or mindset obtained yet, I thought that I wouldn't be able to overcome these challenges. But, with the help of classmates and professors, I learned how to adapt to these problems and come up with solutions to pass my enrolled classes. An example of this would be my Introduction to Technical Writing (ENGL 231C) course that I enrolled in spring 2022. I had no idea what to do when it came to writing a project proposal. But in the end, I persevered and figured out a suitable topic to research.

    Program Reflection-

As mentioned in the previous section, I had the challenge of coming up with various essay topics from nothing. If I could give an answer as to what kind of valuable learning experience I obtained from this is that I learned to give more confidence in myself and not always look at things in a gloomy scenario. Another challenge that came during my learning experience at ODU was understanding a topic that was taught in class. An example of this would be when I was in an introductory engineering class, and I had no idea what the professor was talking about. I could vaguely understand the topic, but the majority of it "went in one ear, out the other". So I stayed after class to ask the professor if they could help explain the topic better to me (i.e., dumb it down more). I eventually understood the topic nearly half an hour later, and was able to move onwards within the course. The main takeaway from this experience is that if given time, I can comprehend complex topics if I'm given the necessary help.

    IDS 493 Reflection-

To explain what this course is to an outsider, you are given various resources to learn and come up with an ePortfolio that displays your experience in college or what experiences you had in life (e.g., maybe various employments you've had in the past). The only interesting concept that I've learned from this course is that creating an ePortfolio can be a tedious task starting from the ground up, but gets easier when you've become attuned to inserting various web pages into your website (i.e., adaptation). I feel like I've done a moderate amount within this course, nothing out of the ordinary or anything special. I was given a task to complete, and I finished it without trying to make it unique. The only aspect of this course I would find challenging is the constant requirement of reviewing other people's websites and making sure that accessibility is found throughout our websites. As to how I addressed this challenge, I didn't; I just kept moving on and finished each assignment with just enough effort put in. I don't think I can improve my portfolio with more time, just due to the fact that I don't find creating one interesting. If I were to put skills/experiences I've learned from previous courses into the IDS 493 course, I would explain that although this course is tedious and uninteresting to me, I would still continue to focus my efforts on completing assignments and meeting the requirements necessary to pass this course.

Conclusion-

The entirety of this course wasn't special in any way to me; I've only enrolled in it due to it being a requirement for my major. If I were to include any interdisciplinary methods/theories from this course, it would be that comparing this portfolio to previous ones I have made in the past would be like comparing the moon to the earth; both are very different things, yet they still gravitate towards one another. As for the connection between courses, I can only think of the connection of this course to my ENGL 231C course, in which I was supposed to come up with something out of nothing. I have no idea why it is important to be an interdisciplinary thinker in cybersecurity, but I guess it would probably be comparing various software/hardware with one another and seeing which is superior to the other. After graduating from ODU, I will be job searching and overall trying to find a job that meets my satisfaction.