Timothy Steward

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Cumulative Reflection

During my time at Iowa State, I took a lot of classes and learned a lot of new things. I enjoyed all except for a few my classes and found a lot of things to be very interesting and to increase my understanding of computing. Many of the things I learned are useful for helping me to create things as an engineer and for fun.

On class I found to be very practical was Software Development Practices (COM S 309). In this class I worked with a group of other students on a software development project. The project was very open-ended, and we were given a lot of flexibility in what we could do. We decided to make a web-based version of a board game with complete with chat. This class help me learn software development skills, how to work on a bigger project, how to work on a team, how to divide the work between people and make the different parts interface with one another. We used tools like git, and continuous integration to help with our software development. I used a lot of the tools when I participated in the HackISU hackathon outside of the classroom. These skills and tools will be useful to me in the future when I work with other engineers on large software projects.

Another class that I found to be practical was Embedded Systems (CPR E 288). In this class I learned how a microcontroller works and how to use it to interface with sensors. I learned how to read data sheets and gain information from outside resources to know how to program to robot. If I ever do engineering work in the field of Embedded Systems, I am sure that the things I learned in this class will be helpful in me knowing what to do.

The classes that I have taken at Iowa State have been helpful in preparing me to be an engineer. I now know how to use techniques, skill, and modern engineering practice. I hope to continue learning after I graduate for fun, and to help be better do my job.