

Computer Engineering

Semester 2 Narrative: [W Kylie Carmona Project Narrative 2.docx](#)

Comprehensive Learning Log: [W Kylie Carmona 2.docx](#)

My interest in engineering started when I was young. Back then I stuck to taking apart pens to see how they worked and building odd contraptions out of pipe cleaners. But no one around me shared my interest in engineering, so I never got the chance to grow my skills or learn from engineers around me. When I was signing up for my high school classes I, of course, signed up for the engineering class. But when I got there I realized that everyone else had tons more experience than me. So I looked for a way to gain more experience easily without taking too much time away from my other classes. I figured I could focus my Advanced Seminars project on gaining more engineering skills but the question was how to do that. Then my teacher suggested Arduino and I was like sure, why not? Arduino is an open hardware development board that can be used by anyone to design and build devices that interact with the real world. When I first started using Arduino I was a bit skeptical that it would be what I needed because I thought it would be more code-focused and although software engineering is a good career, that wasn't what was looking for, but I came to realize that building the hardware is just as important as writing the code in an Arduino project. As I went through the projects, I learned a lot about the simple parts that make up such complex projects. I learned about parts that appear in everyday items that I've never thought about before. The later projects introduced more complex things and by the 15th project, I was learning how to solder. And although I didn't actually need to learn that, I'm still happy I did, as I think it's a great skill/hobby to have. I took my time with the projects and this allowed me really take in the things I was learning. Working with an Arduino was a great experience and I'm glad I got to do it. I highly recommend it, as I gained many valuable skills and engineering knowledge.