MTEC 1101: Emerging Media Foundation
Fall 2020
Zaman

Assignment #5

Read and Respond
"What is Code?" by Paul Ford: https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2015-paul-ford-what-is-code/
Read the required sections, as listed below—each title is linked to the anchor in the page—and then write a response (around 500 words), making sure to answer the questions in italics.

REQUIRED SECTIONS (Chapter 1 & 2)
- 1.1 Why Are We Here?
  - *Of the programming languages that the author has professional experience with, which ones, if any, are you familiar with and why?*
- 2.0 Let's Begin
  - *The author mentions a number of companies and also everyday things in relation to computers—which ones jumped out at you and what do you think is missing from the lists?*
- 2.1 How Do You Type an "A"?
  - *Describe the representations of a single letter from the perspective of a computer.*
- 2.2 From Hardware to Software
  - *How has the job of coders/programmers evolved in relation to software and the market?*
- 2.3 How Does Code Become Software?
  - *Describe the nature and goal of code.*
  - *What is the purpose of a compiler?*
  - *How does a computer "understand," and what is it looking for?*
- 2.4 What Is an Algorithm?
  - *What is the job of an algorithm, and what does one of the famous named ones do?*
  - *How does the author describe a programming language?*
  - *How does the author distinguish between a programmer and a computer scientist?*
- 2.5 The Sprint
  - *Describe what a functional specification document is and often includes.*
- 2.6 What's With All These Conferences, Anyway?
  - *Cite at least one example relating to the gender issue he highlights.*
- Describe your experience with each of the 3 interactives, featuring the blue bot—(1) simulated circuitry in 2.0, (2) keyboard in 2.1, and (3) the tree in 2.3. What happens if you scroll too fast?

Post your response/answers as a comment to the "Response to Assignment 5" post on OpenLab.
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OPTIONAL/EXTRA CREDIT (up to 50 points)

Read at least 3 of the sections listed and linked to below, and write a response of around 250 words.
*Post your response as a **"Reply" to your comment** on the Response to Assignment 5 post.*
- 3.0 Why Are Programmers so Intense About Languages?
- 3.1 The Beauty of the Standard Library (includes an interactive)
- 3.2 What do Different Languages Do?
- 5.7 What About JavaScript? (includes a mouse-based interactive)
- 6.0 How Are Apps Made?
- 6.5 And Now For Something Beautiful (about GitHub)
- 7.5 Should You Learn to Code? (includes a coding interactive)