

When the Corona virus first hit and lockdown was imposed, as a ninth grader I started to develop an interest in computer science since I was surrounded with devices, and we weren't allowed to leave due to safety reasons. Despite not being my first choice, I felt that exploring my options would allow me to find what will best suit my abilities. My interest in computer science was sparked by the movie *The Matrix*, a movie that I believe is among the greatest movies of all time. Throughout the movie, we see a future controlled entirely by machines, and subcultures of hackers and cyberpunks were shown. It is because of the movie that I want to pursue a career in programming. The study of computer science will be an exciting, life-changing experience, giving me the chance to discover the important strategies used in this field. There is something so fascinating about computer science because it has a huge impact on the entire world. Several areas of advanced computer science benefit from mathematics, including computer graphics and the simulation of complex systems.

Since the pandemic was spreading, I had a difficult time finding courses. However, I found out about online courses after searching the web and asking people. I was able to participate in virtual meetings with other students who were also interested in the same course and attend virtual meetings with them. In several ways, I felt that this increased my interest and helped it improve. The first course I ever took was a beginner's Java programming course. Which taught me the very basics of programming about numbers, texts, variables and print output. I was also able to perform these topics and try running the codes myself by the many tests I was asked by the end of each topic. Another thing I learned during this course was the Java methods and flow control. Taking it on as an opportunity to learn more about programming and coding was not easy but once I finished it, I felt so accomplished that I decided to fight harder and challenge myself more by joining more advanced courses hoping that I could succeed. As a result of this course, I learned how to expand my mind when looking for a solution, rather than just being taught the relevant method.

A few of my hobbies include taking yoga classes, which help me maintain a focused mind as well as relieve stress. I enjoy creating my own graphical designs, including designing logos for school projects and some small businesses. I play tennis and sometimes basketball, which serve as constant reminders of the importance of teamwork. As a hobby, I play the guitar during my free time. For two weeks last summer, I attended a summer camp in Switzerland, where I met people from around the world and learned a lot about them. While at the camp, I took French and Spanish classes, which I really enjoyed. Additionally, I volunteered at a school as a teacher assistant, which taught me patience and improved my communication skills.

As I transition from school to university, I'll have the opportunity to experience the independence and commitment that university life offers and take a giant leap towards my career goals. As a whole, I am positive that I will thoroughly enjoy studying Mathematics and Computer Science, and I believe it will provide me with a strong foundation for future career opportunities hopefully as a software engineer.

