

> -----Original Message-----

> Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2007 1:02 AM

> To: dclausi@engmail.uwaterloo.ca

> Subject: Thank You

>

> Dear Professor Clausi,

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> You probably don't remember me, I was in your SYDE 121 Digital
> Computation course last term. I just wanted to write and say thanks
> for being such a great prof. I'm on my work term now and I'm doing
> some programming and I wanted to let you know that I couldn't have
> done any of the things they told me if it weren't for your class.

>

> I came into your class with no prior knowledge of programming and I
> left with thorough understanding, but most importantly I left
> with the basics of programming in my head so that I could go and learn
> any other programming language. (On my work term I had to learn VB.Net
> and C#) You made the course easy to understand for beginners like
> me and always answered questions.

>

> Thanks for everything,

>

Quoting David Clausi <dclausi@engmail.uwaterloo.ca>:

> Thank you for taking the time to give me this positive feedback.
> It helps me to plan the things I will teach in future course offerings.

>

> Please tell me what company you are working for and the nature of your
work.

> I am always curious.

>

> Prof. Clausi

>

To: David Clausi

Subject: RE: Thank You

Hi Prof. Clausi,

I work at the Bank of Montreal, writing web applications for their intranet website. It's not too bad, each application is a standalone one that usually accesses a database. For example, there might be one for employees to request Vacation Days. The first project they gave me (as a tune-up) was converting some code that was written in ASP.NET 1.1 and VisualBasic.NET to ASP.NET 2.0 and C#. While the VB.net syntax was a bit new to me, I understood generally how the program worked. Most of the things I learned in your class I applied when I wrote things in C#. Since the things you taught about object-oriented programming were applicable in all cases, it made understanding things like ADO.net objects much easier. (There are a bunch of key objects that are used to handle database data).

So while what I do isn't perhaps too much of a stretch from some of the labs we did in class, I think that without the essentials of programming I couldn't understand the other people's code as well as if I had just learned the syntax for the languages, for example. Knowing and having an appreciation for how and why code behaves in a certain way was paramount I think in how I was able to adapt to learn other coding languages for my job. I hope that was an interesting read for you and that other students can learn as I did.