My 41189 Reflective Portfolio

Week 1

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learnt a lot of new things this week, that will lay down the foundations for this subject. It was important to define some key terms that will be used frequently in this subject such as, most importantly what a system is and the difference between a complicated system and a complex system.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I didn’t know the difference between a complex system: predictions are often inaccurate, undetermined outcome, and a complicated system: predictable and upfront, deterministic outcome. I also broadened my understanding of a system which will help me in future endevours when it comes to understanding certain ideas especially with my degree in science.

**What insights have I gained?**

* **Is everything a system? Why or why not?** The universe is made up of a series of systems in my opinion, with everything working cohesively together in it’s respective systems. There can be overlap and interconnectivity between systems, where every system has a purpose, integrity and identity.
* **As we have defined complex systems would a passenger aircraft qualify as one?** I believe a passenger aircraft would be defined as a complicated system as each of the billions of tiny electronic components have been precisely put together through the designs of aircraft professionals to make it work!
* **Would the aircraft in question 2 qualify as a Complex Adaptive System? Why or why not?** No it would not, the passenger aircraft does not possess any of the characteristic of a complex adaptive system. These characteristic include: Distributed control, far from equilibrium, co-evolution, connectivity, sensitive dependence on initial conditions.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

My perceived strength is my analysis on the discussion board. I really believe I understood the question and found the thinking models interesting. I think my answer was good too.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

One of the challenges I faced was remembering to look at the broader context in which our system sits; looking at the bigger picture and how it fits in with everything else instead of just focusing on that system alone.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

I wouldn’t change anything as I think I tried my hardest to grasp the ideas.

Week 2

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learned about the wisdom of crowds. I thought this was very interesting and will possibly use it in the future in the right situation.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I didn’t know about the wisdom of crowds theory, this idea was completely new to me!

**What insights have I gained?**

That the average of a group of people can better estimate something than an expert

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

I think I wrote a good discussion board this week, and Was able to relate many-model thinking to my everyday life.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

The challenges that I encountered was Github. I find it really difficult to use. I have decided to do my journal entries first on google docs, and then upload to Github later in the semester.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Ask more questions to the tutor on how to use Github.

Week 3

**What have I learnt this week?**

Upon reflection, it was observed that I learnt many things in this model which included many models that will be useful to use in everyday life for certain situations

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I now know how to better apply what I learned about recombination. This means combining different perspectives and heuristics to create ever more and better perspectives and heuristics. This is the avenue to more and more innovation.

**What insights have I gained?**

I thought the module on modelling people was really interesting. I had never really thought about how hard it can be to predict peoples actions. This is true that people dont always make rational decisions, but that many other factors come into play.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

One of my strengths was understanding the models that we studied this week. Another one of my strengths was the discussion board. I think I had a good analysis and did well to apply this thinking models to my everyday experience.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Our group found it hard to organise a time a all meet up to discuss what parts we were doing. But we did it in the end and that gave us all a clear goal as to what we need to do.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Organise it better and earlier. This would allow us more time to research.

Week 4

**What have I learnt this week?**

I developed a deeper more profound understand on networks

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I now know how to better understand a system with the use of a casual loop diagram.

**What insights have I gained?**

I found the introduction to network theory an interesting topic that I may delve deeper in later in life to better understand the world.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

My perceived strengths include relating my understanding of the things i’ve learned this week to real world problems and my degree. My perceived weakness in this course may be that I really need to slow down and understand some of the concepts as this is all very new to me.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

A challenge we faced was making sure everyone was up to date so that we weren’t leaving everything to the last minute. We just tried to stay ontop of everything.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

I probably would just try and get the project done earlier.

Week 5

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learnt that probability is the long-term chance that a certain outcome will occur from some random process. It basically tells you how often different kinds of events will happen.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I didn’t know how useful probability was in our everyday lives and how to utalise it in our everyday lives. I further learnt about probability distributions which links each outcome of a random variable or process with its probability of occurrence.

**What insights have I gained?**

That this subject will benefit me in everyday life beyond uni and also within my biomedical science degree.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

I think my discussion board this week was well executed, and I understood the reasons as to why cities live forever but companies die. I like my analysis in my response.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Making sure that all the information we were using to answer the questions in the group project is relevant to our topic and question. We needed to make sure that we weren’t too broad with what we were saying.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Make sure to really understand the question, and constantly making sure that what we are researching is relevant.

Week 6

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learnt more about the group assignment and about oil spills.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I never knew how many oil spills there were a year. I thought is was a rare occurrence.

**What insights have I gained?**

Markov’s Model gave me insights into the world and the politics between democracy and dictatorship.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

Writing concisely, and relevant to the topic.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Not any challenges this week

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

nothing.

Week 7

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learnt about Schelling's segregation model and that I can construct a very simple measure to compare how segregated an area is by race, income or anything else.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I didn’t know that Netlogo existed and this will help me in future endevours.

**What insights have I gained?**

I gained further insight into how detrimental to the environment oil spills are.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

My weakness this week was time management when it came to doing some work on my group project. I didn’t have as much time as I wouldv’e likes.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

A challenge this week was that I was busy with my other subject and therefore didn’t have as much time to do my group project.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Better time management.

Week 8

**What have I learnt this week?**

When researching for the discussion board I further learnt more about game theory which was really interesting.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

I thought that there would have been one right way of soldier to castle distribution that would be most likely to win, but theres not. So I learnt about game theory.

**What insights have I gained?**

That hopefully I can trust my instincts with the game from the discussion board, as it is random and will be luck.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

My strengths this week was the discussion board. The I that my soldier to catsle distribution is very good and I am really hoping to win!

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

This week was when our first draft was due for the final assignment. No challenges her we worked together and submitted on time.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Nothing.

Week 9

**What have I learnt this week?**

I learnt that despite oil spills being morally wrong, it is a complex geopolitical issue that relies heavily on the varied influence from major players such as Asia, America and the UK.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

Often despite the general consensus agreeing that oil spill should be prevented the global sentiment has valued the extraction of oil for the maintenance of society.

**What insights have I gained?**

Oil is valuable commodity

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

I am really good at researching.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Working with my group

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Stay on top of things.

Week 10

**What have I learnt this week?**

That there aren’t any good ways to clean up oil that are good for the ecosystem.

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

That there aren’t any good ways to clean up oil that are good for the ecosystem.

**What insights have I gained?**

The problems with dispersants.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

Good timemanagement this week!

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

No challenges this week.

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Nothing.

Week 11

**What have I learnt this week?**

This week I researched oil substitutes for my own interest. One of the major oil substitutes is sustainable energy solar panels that use photovoltaic cells to convert sunlight into energy

**What do I 'now know' that I did not before?**

Despite the technology being good for the environment, not many people want to put solar panels on their homes due to their asthetics.

**What insights have I gained?**

Moreover, not much research goes into the field of solar panels, as oil is much more profitable.

**What are (my/the) perceived strengths and weaknesses that I have observed?**

I am passionate about renewable energy and therefore enjoyed researching this topic. However as I am incredibly pro clean energy I might be biased against research that disputes solar panel effectiveness.

**What were the challenges I have encountered/observed and how well (did I/my team) handle them?**

Our team did very well this week!

**What would I do better next time and with what anticipated results?**

Nothing