

INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO Y DE ESTUDIOS SUPERIORES DE MONTERREY

Ethics, sustainability and social responsibility

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Evidence 2. Submitting the Metacognitive Report for a single agency

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1. Essay: Improve yourself to assist in improving

Heat waves, lack of water, severe hail storms are examples of what Climate Change is capable of doing, making us suffer from these consequences, slowly forming an environment where we will not be able to survive. As humans, we have accomplished great things all this time we have been here, we are the only species that are able to reason, nevertheless we are destroying what keeps us alive, the Earth. Throughout this course I have learnt a variety of techniques, and developed tools which helped me be more aware of this alarming situation. Along this essay, questions such as what I have learned, which tools I acquired, and how can I use them to improve the planet's current situation, will be answered.

There is one phrase that jumps in my head when I think of what I have learned during these past 15 weeks, "we are running out of time". The world urgently needs our help, and if we decide to overlook this, there may be no turning back afterwards. Throughout our life we have been witnesses of the damage that climate change has caused on our planet, and despite this people are still doing nothing to change it. One would think that this is changing, and that people are starting to be aware of the situation, due to the fact that currently everyone is on this new trend of "being green", but I can affirm that this is just a cover. According to what I have been taught, people always talk about what we have to do to change the current situation, but barely anyone does something on the matter. If we continue to not care, and not doing something to reverse or at least counteract the effects, in a few years there will be no planet for us to live on.

Acknowledging the current situation and learning about what we are currently facing was not an easy job. Making a deep and well grounded research on the problematic has been crucial for me to fully understand what's happening and has helped me to develop a solution. In order to accomplish this, I used the following strategies to avoid using fake news, and biased information. The first strategy was to create a list of keywords relating to the problem I was looking for, so that I could then hunt for trustworthy web pages ending in ".gob" and ".gov" rather than ".com.". The second strategy was using reliable data sources such as google scholar, where the results shown are articles, theses and books from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories and universities. At last, the third strategy was keeping updated by watching, and reading the news on how climate change is affecting us nowadays.

However, while it may appear to be simple to do research using the previous strategies, each has its own set of challenges and difficulties. For me, to think about what I am going to search for and which keywords I am going to use is the hardest part of the process. For this, firstly I design a brainstorm, where I write down everything that gets into my mind. Then, with my ideas clear, all things start to take shape. Afterwards, I keep the ones that are more aligned with what I want to find, and at last I start to look for these on the internet. In addition to the difficulty I faced in determining the keywords with which to begin my search, the fact that nowadays, due to the abundance of information and misleading websites on the internet, finding credible sources of information and data is extremely difficult complicates my research even more.

Another factor that complicates and makes it hard for me to do my research on time is that I tend to procrastinate a lot. However, recently I found out that for me procrastination is like a locked door that will not open, and motivation is the key. In reality, the hardest and most complicated thing for me is to focus on the work I am currently doing. In order to avoid procrastinating and getting distracted, I have been trying to set small goals to accomplish throughout my research process and rewarding myself after that. An example of the goals that I have set for myself is working for a small amount of time, where I force myself and get as far as I can on my task.

Taking all the challenges that this class presented in terms of growing as a student and human being, I can say that this class has helped me to improve my research and critical thinking skills, specifically towards controversial themes such as climate change. This knowledge I have gathered is crucial in every single way. Being well-informed in any field, whether academic or professional, is critical. It's worth mentioning that being well-informed about everything that happens in our world helps us avoid falling into ignorance and indifference. Furthermore, by being aware of what is going on, a person may begin to devise solutions. Returning to the topic of climate change, because to this class, I was able to understand the long-term effects that this would have on our world. Thanks to this, throughout the semester, in addition to learning a lot about the subject, together with my team we decided to put indifference aside and design a project that seeks to make people aware of the effects of garbage on the environment and how to recycle. This project also seeks to create campaigns to reduce the number of garbage in the streets of the country.

This course was challenging for me because the majority of the activities needed extensive research, and I was exposed to numerous sources of misinformation. As a result, I had to develop strategies to gather only trustworthy information which is needed to create a real solution for this problem humanity has been facing for years and finally make a real change in our environment. I have learned a lot throughout these 15 weeks, and I have also been more aware of this issue. To conclude I would like to mention that with this knowledge I will, from now on, be more careful with my actions, because these ones can have a huge impact on our surroundings.

Dear world.

Climate change is real and it is our fault. According to the WWF (n.d) if nothing is done, from extreme weather to increasing food prices, to recreation and decreased opportunities to appreciate the natural world, we will then suffer these consequences, for example in Mexico climate change has already struck.

All over the country, unusual weathers had been reported, some are the cases of droughts in Monterrey, massive floods in Guadalajara, and unusually large hail in Mexico City. Reducing our carbon footprint is fundamentally necessary to create a world where people can prospere. Our children, and all future generations, deserve to live in a world full of life and opportunities. Now it is more important than ever that we use our action, our votes and our voices to tell political and business leaders that action on climate is absolutely essential.



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