

**CSCU9P6 – Software Engineer II Personal Essay**

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From the day that the assignment got released all the 5 team members we started by arranging a meeting to start to analyze the project and talk about a way to communicate with each other. Communication is a key element while working in a group, so the achievement of a greater results could happen. Therefore, we used the Facebook Messenger to create a group, so we can communicate with each other instantly, more frequently with immediate response and efficiency rather than emails.

From the very first meeting we used task analysis to determine what needed to be done and split the work equally for each group member until the next meeting. We talked about some of the possible assumptions that it needed to be made so we can start making logical and real-life decisions about how a parking should work under some circumstances. We split up the Use Case diagrams and started to talk about from where we should start, where we should head and how it is going to done. Even though we didn’t have a Leader to our group, we manage to do a good amount of work together as a group especially at the meetings.

As a group we trusted each other, and we kept the mood positive in the group chat and at the meetings, so everyone had the free speech for ideas, disagreements while suggesting solutions, questions and jokes. With this positive dynamic we achieved to be nearly twice as creative as an average group. Communication allowed us to discuss together the possible bugs and errors while everyone was working on the same computer. At every meeting we used this method and every time we managed to achieve satisfactory results, saving a lot of time rather than assign each member to do a huge amount of work from home and submit it until the next meeting. Working as a group took as further than working individually.

Fortunately, in our group we didn’t have the type of person that often disagrees with others or their behavior is inappropriate. Unfortunately, we had a withdrawer which is a person that doesn’t participate in the group meetings, discussions, conversations or even avoiding doing their part of the work done. This was an issue because some of the team members are forced to cover the extra work that assigned for that person.

There is some room and strategies for improving team dynamics by knowing your team and know how to handle some problems that an individual may have so the group is not affected. For example, one team member is always late because the parking is always full, or another team member is far away from the meeting point and need some time to come.

Another way to improve team dynamics is to define roles and responsibilities. Unfortunately, we didn’t have the luxury of time to have a leader and define exact roles and responsibilities to each team member as this required everyone to understand, cooperate and communicate with everyone when needed. One member of our team avoids some of the meetings, so we couldn’t define roles.

At the end as a group we achieved amazing results we didn’t expect. Everyone was focused on the project while a member focusing on comments, another member was testing the Junit and another member was testing the whole functionality of the project to find bugs.