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04/10/2021

Critical Studies - Week 1

My Interpretation of The Course and The Learning Outcomes

My Interpretation of The Course

I think this course is to help me explore the relationship between the technique and human being. I'm very interested in the connection, especially the connection among human-made things and natural things. Computational thinking is a great way to explore this connection.

Computational thinking is too wide to explain its meaning. I think it's like a mode to help people solve the problems, and it is faster and more efficient. For example, I wanted to know how to take Covid testing in local hospital last month. My idea was to find the contact number of the hospital, and call them for asking. Then they told me a series of steps about Covid testing. But my mother, who experienced very few smart devices, said her choice is to ask her friend who works in the local hospital, and then her friend can tell us what we need to do. Computational thinking makes me follow an established rule to execute, but my mom prefer to believe people's suggestions.

According to the above story, I also want to say that I believe computational thinking is derived from new technologies. The way we use to solve the problems by new technologies shape the computational thinking. I totally agree and love the sentence from the course brief: "*This unit explores a **conceptual framework** to understanding what can be called computational thinking and looks at how… creative practice*." I believe a conceptual framework will be helpful to understand how computational thinking has an impact in the culture and history.

My Interpretation of The Learning Outcomes

"Demonstrate an awareness computational thinking and its application to creative practice."

I think an awareness means we will be more sensitive to the reflection on technology. We will have a more sensitive intuition about technology to discover its impact on different cultural contexts. Another big question is how to connect our thinking with creative practice. We need to consider a suitable and excellent practice idea to communicate our thinking with audiences. That will be a challenge for me, because I'm not good at practice my idea.

"Identify and discuss the limits of computational thinking."

I value the limitations of computational thinking in different cultural and ecological contexts. These contexts are consisted by many factors. We need to know the shortcoming of our thinking so that we can go further.

"Identify and discuss the cultural impact of computational thinking."

There is an incident that impressed me, but I am not sure whether it belongs to computational thinking. My friend and I made a testing about smart recommendation for mobile phone software. We try to talk about one item many times in the morning, and then our mobile phone software recommend the shopping link of this item. It seems that smart recommendation helps us shape a lazy thinking mode. It's convenient, but I'm not sure it's good to our future.