



Take Away Journal

A summary of what I learned in INFO 102.

06.07.16

—

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INFO 102

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Table of Contents

Overview	
Page.....	
.....	3
Themes.....	
.....	4 - 11
List of	
Takeaways.....	
.....	12 - 13
Objective	
Assessment.....	
.....	14
Personal Career	
Plan.....	
.....	14- 15

Overview

I organized my take-away journal into main six main themes. I added pictures that relate to these themes and gave a summary of each theme, mentioning some of the important takeaways that relate to the theme. Then I talked about the significance of those themes, especially with regards to my own life. After the themes, I give a list of all the take-aways from class. Finally, at the end, I give an assessment of the objectives that are given below and talk about a personal career plan.

Objectives

1. Why is there less women in tech?
2. How can we get more women in tech?
3. Why is it important to have more women in tech?

Top Themes

- I. Get out there and talk to people.
- II. Being different can be both an advantage and disadvantage.
- III. The reasons why there are more men than women in the tech field are complicated.
- IV. Work hard. Work smart.
- V. Teamwork is essential.
- VI. The tech field is awesome.

I. Get out there and talk to people.



Source: <https://thebodypacifist.wordpress.com/2013/07/31/five-ways-to-talk-to-people-against-body-acceptance-without-making-enemies/>

Summary of Theme

Conversations with Strangers

One of the most impactful themes in this class is the importance of speaking up and talking to people. Dona Sarkar talked a lot about networking and starting conversations with strangers. She gave examples of impactful conversations she had with people and gave tips on how to interact with people in a professional setting. For instance, Dona said that it takes three interactions to build a relationship. The first interaction is between strangers. The second interaction is between acquaintances and at the third interaction is between friends. She also mentioned something about giving obscure introductions to introduce people who are otherwise unconnected. This way people have something to talk about even when they do not have much in common. She also mentioned that everyone should know their story and your story it should be compelling and interesting. This way you have something interesting to talk about with people and it will make them remember you. The ability to make conversations with strangers is essential to networking.

Social Media

But it is not just talking with people in person. It is also important to communicate with people through social media. Sarkar mentioned choosing a social media and sticking to it. If something does not exist on social media, it might as well not exist as all.

Mentorship and Sponsorship

The concept of mentorship and sponsorship came up several times throughout the quarter. I learned that sponsors are similar to mentors but a sponsor knows your body of work but may not give you advice like a mentor. For instance, Dottie talked about how her teacher played a huge role into her choice to continue with math. I learned that mentors and sponsors can have a huge impact on whether or not you get a job and that it is important to build those networks.

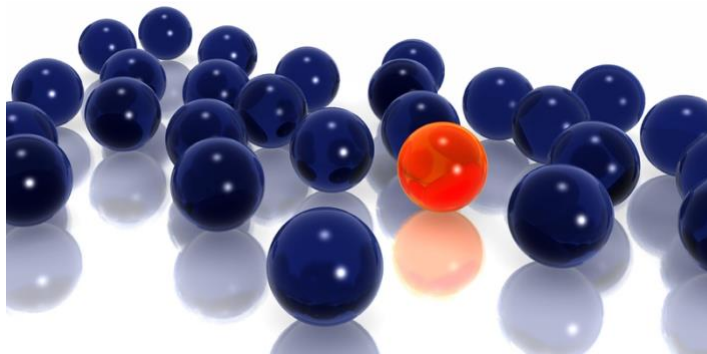
Thanking People

Dottie also talked about the importance of thanking people who helped you get to where you are today. She talked about inviting her teacher to her launch and recognizing the impacts that other people had on her life. Dottie emphasized the importance of the belief other people have in you and the belief you have in other people. It is important because people see things in you that you do not see in yourself and you see things in other people that they do not see in themselves.

Significance of Theme

This perhaps was not the most emphasized theme in the class but it was the most significant theme to me. I am not super comfortable talking to strangers, but after this class I realize the importance of getting out there and talking to people and the impact that can have on one's path. I also realize the importance social media. Before taking this class, I thought that the heavy use of social media was for those people with a large following like celebrities. However, I recognize now that social media can help you pursue your own activities and interests. Looking back, I know that there are a lot of people I need to thank for getting me to where I am today.

II. Being different can be both an advantage and disadvantage.



Source: <http://crystalclearbookkeeping.com.au/being-different/>

Summary of Theme

Advantages and Disadvantages to the Person

Being different comes with a lot of disadvantages. When someone is different there is a lot of pressure to fit in or blend in with the dominant group of people. In this class, we learned a lot about how being different can be hard but also how being different can be advantageous to the person. For instance, if a person stands out because they are different, then their voice may be more likely to be heard.

Advantages and Disadvantages to the Company

In a less diverse environment then there is less diversity of ideas, options and ideas, which leads products that have a narrow audience. For instance, people with different backgrounds and perspectives have the ability to be an essential team member because they understand the unmet needs in under-leveraged markets. A group of people tend to solve problems in the same way so a group of dissimilar people tend to solves problems in different ways. Also, when people think differently it forces people to think more deeply about the problem at hand. Diversity of opinions and ideas presented by the company allows more users to see themselves reflected in the company which may result with a wider range of users. This may be why companies with women executives tend to have higher profits.

Significance of Theme

Everyone knows that diversity is important but this class taught me about the impacts of diversity. Morally everyone knows that it is important to include everyone, however, I never realized that this inclusion could have impacted the something as tangible as profits and the design of the product.

Additionally, I learned about diversity in general. Before I took this class when I thought diversity was race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. However, after taking this class I realize that diversity is much more than that. I learned that there is a difference between inherent and acquired diversity and it is important to recognize both.

III. The reasons why there are more men than women in the tech field are complicated.



Source: <http://www.executivecoachinnewyork.com/how-to-improve-company-morale-using-leadership-skills/>

Summary of Theme

Direct Discrimination

There are many reasons why women drop out of STEM fields. Direct discrimination is the most obvious reason for this gap. However, direct discrimination only accounts for a small amount of the wage gap and other forms of discrimination. The pipeline effect accounts for the rest of the gap.

Stereotypes and Nerd Culture

The nerd culture is a factor in why there are less women than men in the tech field. Advertising targeted towards men in the 1980s helped promote a nerdy male stereotype of those in the tech field. This stereotype is an important reason why females drop out of STEM and males stay. Nerd culture prevents women from joining and staying in the workforce. The idea is that women not invited, welcomed, or included. The “you don’t look like the type” comment is a result of that stereotype and makes women feel like they do not belong in the tech field.

Also, as kids grow up this stereotype prevents them from pursuing tech interests. In high school there is pressure to get into college. Therefore, people are less likely to take risks and join a club where they may or may not be welcomed. High school computer science clubs are exclusive. They do not usually like newbies and are full of similar people. Also, they are often outsiders already and when people who are not outsiders join, they feel as though their niche is invaded.

Unwanted Advances

Women drop out of the STEM field because of unwanted advances. However, due to office politics and workplace culture there is pressure to remain passive until the advances become unavoidable.

Implicit Gender Bias

Implicit gender bias is another reason why women drop out of the tech field. Women have to fight hard to be valued. Women must do anything a man does twice as well to be thought of as

half as good. Contributions from women in the workplace are expected while contributions from men are not so expected and women have to fight for recognition of their contributions while men do not. Also, gender biases don't get easier to deal with as one's career goes on which causes women to drop out throughout their careers.

Significance of Theme

Before taking this class I was unclear on why there was less women than men in the tech field. Sure, I thought that direct discrimination accounted for a part of the gender gap. However, I did not know the other factors contributing to the gender disparity. I think it is important to recognize and prepare for these other factors because as a person who hopes to one day work in the tech industry it is important to prepare for potential obstacles. By acknowledging the reasons why women drop out of the industry, women can make more informed decisions about entering the field.

IV. Work smart. Work hard.



Source: <http://www.marciasteele.com/street-smarts-persistence-working-smart/>

Summary of Theme

Career Choices

In order to work smart, you have to make smart career choices. Kathleen Hogan talked about how failure is important to your career. She said that you should not worry about taking risks. Taking risks is essential to advancing your career but failing all the time shows that you do not take smart risks. In class we also talked about how before making any big life changes, you should do some cost analysis to figure out if it is a practical idea. Hogan also talked about how you should know when you have reached your level of incompetence. She talked about how it is important to know when you need to go back to school to get the education you need to do your job competently.

Know Your Product

In order to create a good product, you should identify a problem. When presenting the problem, you should show the pain of the problem and show the opportunity that pain presents. You

should also recognize how the data flows through the product and where that data comes from. Also, when creating a product, you should know the costs, the potential revenues, and how you are going to price the product. Will the product be self-sustainable? A good company will consider similar products and how your product is different. You should use a comparison chart to illustrate how your product is different and better than other products. A good company will also know the market of their product and how big the market is. A functionality/ease of use graph is also important in evaluating your market. Finally, it is important to know how people are going to learn about your product and how they are going to get it.

Work Efficiently

Working efficiently is knowing when to use brute force, how big of a problem to tackle and knowing how to tackle problems most effectively. Dottie mentioned that sometimes using brute force does the trick- like when you have to force a warped ammonia tank into the space station. Brute force also comes in handy when you need to 'invest.' Hogan talked about how you need to 'invest' so you can 'harvest' when something happens. Working efficiently also means knowing how big of a problem to tackle. Dona talked about how you should not worry about changing the world, but rather solve the little problems. We also talked about how in order to tackle problems most effectively you should be more efficient when helping others so you don't get burnt out. For example, having lunch with a bunch of people instead of just one person.

Significance of Theme

Oftentimes, I find it tempting just to use brute force to solve problems. I like knowing I am getting something done and getting closer to the solution. While brute force is important to working hard, I have to remember that there is more to solving problems than just brute force. I have to make sure I think about how I tackle problems and what problems I am trying to solve. I know that problems are much easier to solve when I break them apart- I just have to remember that the next time I face a large problem.

V. Teamwork is essential.



Source: <https://www.asme.org/career-education/articles/team-building/teaching-teamwork-to-engineers>

Summary of Theme

Good Teamwork

Good teamwork is not the easiest thing to find. In this class we talked about how there are a variety of ways to be a good team member. Sometimes a person will be quiet but make meaningful contributions, other people will be the person constantly initiates tasks, and other people will be the support. People will butt heads occasionally that is to be expected. In order to get good teamwork, it is important that people know that they are valued. It is easier to give a project your best effort when people recognize the effort that you put into it.

Benefits of Teamwork

The benefits of working on a team are numerous. First, there is the obvious benefit of a shared workload. But also, team members can also bounce ideas off each other and there is a bigger bank of ideas to draw from. Overall, the project goes faster and the end project is better because of teamwork.

Significance of Theme

VI. The tech field is awesome.



Source: <http://www.adkissondevelopment.com/tech-industry-driving-new-office-market/>

Summary of Theme

Scope of Tech

One of awesome parts about tech is the scope of the tech field. There is a wide range of tech positions that require tech knowledge. You can work in the sales of the product, the design of the product, and the building of the product. Also, learning how tech works can help you with selling things completely separate to tech. For example, the founders of the Magnuson hotels used tech to promote their company. Finally, even if you do not work in tech, knowing about tech will get you credits from the techy people you work with and will help you do your job more efficiently.

Benefits of Tech

Tech has some significant benefits to society. For instance, tech has had a significant impact on the travel industry. Travelers no longer have to hire travel agents because they have access to a large wealth of information online. Tech also gives us more information to use so our generation can have a more individualized travel experience. An increase in tech has allowed people to make better and cheaper decisions because more information about our options is available. Tech has also improved the medical industry. Technology in the medical field has allowed for more repositories of information, people to self-diagnose, and reduce the impacts of bad handwriting.

Power of Tech

Tech has a serious impact on society. Tech has allowed more voices and points of view to be heard in news stories. However, it is important to recognize that tech allows false information to spread easily across social media. Also, if you put technology in the hands of a lot of people then they do a lot of cool things. For instance, tech has improved the news industry. Tech allows news to be communicated in a more immediate and personalized manner and allowed news to be communicated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. But the tech industry has not been maxed out yet. Tech is the middle of an exponential increase.

Significance of Theme

It is tempting to think that the tech industry simply consists of those that build the tech. However, it is important to recognize that while someone has to build in the product, there are many other aspects to the tech industry other than the building of the product. The tech industry also has a lot of impacts on society. Before this class I thought about the tech that existed in society, but I rarely thought about why or how tech exists in our society. Tech is created in our society and impacts our society and it is essential that we recognize this.

List of Take-Aways

3-29-16

1. Benefits of being diverse- may get more attention if diverse(?) voice may be more likely to be heard
2. Benefits of team besides shared workload- bounce idea off each other and diversity
3. It's complicated- pay with respect to experience and knowledge
4. Empowerment through knowledge- regardless of identity
5. There's a lot of people in this class and if everyone speaks up it takes a long time
6. There's a variety of ways to be a good team member
7. Speaking up is important
8. We'll make website in this class
9. We have to do guest speaker summaries
10. Getting two people who butt head in a group project happens and that's okay

3-31-16

1. Why is tech I want to do- makes sense, connect to techy people, job stability, interdisciplinary
2. Tech industry resilience against economic recession compared to .com dip
3. Job security vs. career security- will have career security, maybe not career security
4. No such thing as corporate loyalty
5. Entrepulism is important in tech field
6. Number of women in computer science majors have decreased since the 1980s- 32% to 18%
7. Women executives lead to more profits
8. Direct discrimination only accounts for a small amount of the wage gap, pipeline effect accounts for the rest
9. Even an interview can get to attention and practice
10. "In 20 years computer will be a million times more powerful than today" - we haven't maxed out tech yet, middle of exponential

4-5-16

1. Large companies can benefit you because there's a large pool of people to learn from.
2. Large companies allow you to specialize while smaller companies allow you to do a wide range of things.
3. You are more expendable in a larger companies than in smaller companies.
4. As a consultant, you get to travel a lot and see the inside of many firms and put your foot in many doors.
5. As a consultant, the work-life balance is very skewed.
6. Small companies and start-ups are less focused on the job description.
7. Managers can be control freaks in small companies and start-ups.
8. Mistakes can be easily seen in small companies and start-ups
9. Working at a startup will let you see all the mistakes other people make and so when you create your own start-up, you avoid their mistakes.
10. Even if you're not going to be working with tech, knowing about tech will get you credits from the techy people you work with.

4-7-16

5-3-16

1. When presenting the problem, show the pain of the problem and show the opportunity that pain presents.
2. Look at the data flow when creating a product and know where the data is comes from.
3. When creating a product know the costs, the potential revenues, and how you are going to price the product- will it be self-sustainable?
4. Know your competition when creating a product and how your product is different.
5. Females may be more likely to abandon STEM studies because their confidence is undermined.
6. Males rank other males over females even when both the females and males have equal GPAs.
7. The gender bias of males was 19 times bigger than the gender bias of females.
8. Stereotypes are an important reason why females drop out of STEM and males stay.
9. Women must do anything a man does twice as well to be thought of as half as good.
10. Leading across cultures is much more difficult for women than it is for men.

5-5-16

1. I showed up on Cinco de Mayo
2. Don't underestimate the receptionists- they can be your best friends because they know everything.
3. Contributions from women in the workplace are expected while contributions from men are not so expected.
4. A women has to fight for recognition while men don't.
5. Women generally tend to get burnt out because they tend to take of others before helping themselves.
6. Be more efficient when helping others so you don't get burnt out- doing lunch with a bunch of people instead of just one person.
7. Stop approaches quickly before they go on too long to stop.
8. Women drop out of the STEM field because of unwanted advances.
9. It isn't that males do more work than women, but that they do more paid work than women.
10. Gender biases don't get easier to deal with as one's career goes on.

5-10-16

1. There's no difference between those who went to 'A' level schools, 'B' level schools, and 'C' level schools.
2. Look for a company whose mission you can get behind.
3. Stepping up and doing what was right for team helped get her promoted.
4. Acknowledge your luck- born into the right situation.

	1. Y2K - even if something becomes less popular, if it's widely used and there's a mistake, you can earn a lot of money	5. Know when you've reached your level of incompetence.
	2. There's a wide range of tech positions that require tech knowledge- there's more than just build it	6. Know the difference between employee mentality vs. employer mentality.
	3. Learning how tech works can help you with selling things completely separate to tech- Magnuson hotels	7. Have courage- say something even when other people know more.
	4. More tech has allowed people to make better and cheaper decisions because more information is available	8. Invest so you can harvest when something happens.
	5. Because more tech gives us more information to use, our generation can a more individualized travel experience	9. Work will fill the capacity you give it.
	6. The use of travel agents declined because now it takes a very short amount of time to access a very large amount of information.	10. Don't fail all the time but don't play it all safe.
	7. Our generation is so used to such a large amount of information that we see what was once a normal amount of information as a risk.	5-12-16
	8. In order to do something with 'operation' in the title, you have to have managerial skills and be calm under pressure.	1. Short people hate tall centerpieces.
	9. Testing experience can help you get experience in the tech field and get you foot in the door.	2. Recognize problem, reduce problem, and redistribute from there.
4-12-16	10. Adaptation is important in the tech field because stuff is constantly changing.	3. We've accepted women into the workforce but not into the club.
	1. Always look for your competition and know how your product/opportunity is different from their product/opportunity.	4. Nerd culture prevents women from joining the workforce- not invited, not welcomed, not included.
	2. Have a list of all the features in your product and know how they group together.	5. Women have to fight hard to be valued.
	3. Use comparison chart to illustrate how your product is different and better than other products.	6. The "you don't look like the type" comment is a reason why there's less women in the workforce.
	4. Know your audience and where your product lies on a functionality/ease of use graph.	7. High school CS clubs are exclusive- no newbies, similar people, they're outsiders already- niche invaded.
	5. Psychographics are the values of the users, like health conscious, income, ect.	8. You have pigeonholed into elementary and middle school so it's hard to reinvent.
	6. Know the market of your product and how big your market it is.	9. In high school there's pressure to get into college- less likely to take risks.
	7. Know how people are going to learn about your product and how they are going to get it.	10. Teachers play into the stereotypes and have a huge influence on who goes into math and whose doesn't go into math.
	8. Before making any big life changes, do some cost analysis and figure out if it's still possible.	5-17-16
	9. Know what your objective is when you go into an interview.	1. You do not need a technical undergraduate degree to research in a technical area.
	10. Always know how much time you have when you go into an interview as an interviewer to a more powerful interviewee.	2. Being different forces you to ask different questions.
4-14-16	1. None of industry tech leaders binge watch Netflix because they want to do things, not watch things. They are notorious learners.	3. Take more statistics classes- it is important knowledge to have in research.
	2. It takes 3 interactions to build a relationship. First interaction you're strangers, second interaction you're acquaintances, and at the next interaction you're friends.	4. Know yourself- what you want, who you are, be purposeful and intentional.
	3. The only difference between L'Oreal mascara and Lancome mascara is the price and the packaging.	5. You never arrive- constant feeling of becoming.
	4. Apply for jobs that you only meet ⅓ of the requirements. Hiring managers don't expect people to meet all the requirements.	6. If something peaks your interest then follow it.
	5. If something doesn't exist on social media, it might as well not exist at all.	7. Risk management is not about taking risks, it is about being thoughtful about risks.
	6. Know your story and should be something compelling and interesting.	8. Mentors don't give you a map but gives you questions that'll help you draw a map.
	7. Choose a social media and commit to it.	9. Choose friends that'll push you forward.
	8. Give obscure intros to introduce people who are otherwise unconnected.	10. Don't network up and outward, but also across to peers.
	9. Sponsors are people who know your body of work but may not give you advice like a mentor.	5-19-16
	10. Don't worry about changing the world. Solve the little problems.	1. The trick to keeping women happy at work is to put them in leadership positions.
4-19-16	1. Russia sent a woman to space 20 years before the US	2. Companies with more women in leadership positions report a higher level of satisfaction.
	2. Always thank people who helped you get to where you are today.	3. If women are happier at a company they are more likely to stick around.
	3. It matter that people believe in you and you believe in other people.	4. Gender equity gets worse as you go up the ladder.
	4. It's important for people to see things you don't even see in themselves	5. When you don't feel like you're learning anymore, don't be afraid to move.
	5. Plans work out- even though Peace Core didn't work out, she achieved her dreams.	6. Make your health a priority.
	6. It's more important for people to know that they're valued.	7. Observe people so that you can better lead them.
	7. Your bones become less dense and your heart becomes weaker in space because it doesn't have to work as hard.	8. Forgive yourself and embrace mistakes.
	8. Sometimes brute force does do the trick- like when you have to force a warped ammonia tank into the space station.	9. Have confidence in your own abilities.
	9. Space food is not good for you- high in sodium and not good for bone density.	10. Don't worry about being a women in tech- just be you.
	10. If you put technology in the hands of a lot of people then they do a lot of cool things.	5-24-16
4-21-16	1. Religion plays a large role in gender stereotypes.	1. Most of teachers in the US are white women.
	2. The only people in Sparta who got buried were men who died in battle and women who died in childbirth.	2. Teachers that come from the same place as the students they teach are best to understand their students.
	3. Essentialism is the belief that certain groups have certain characteristics.	3. Gender neutral activities are important in the classroom.
	4. Women dress the way they do for other women.	4. Encouragement from teachers is essential.
	5. Men don't necessarily have a motive to promote equality beyond diversity.	5. Introducing tech in the classroom is important for future job opportunities.
	6. Ada Lovelace built a computer program before the computer existed.	6. Realize that parents may care but may not feel welcome in a school setting.
	7. Sometimes the coolest things happen when things don't go our way.	7. Made those that are other feel cool.
	8. "But we've always done it this way" is a stupid thing to say.	8. Many parents who aren't involved in their child's school do care.
	9. One of the biggest trailblazers in computer science didn't think of herself as a trailblazers.	9. Your child's success shouldn't depend on the education of their parents.
	10. Advertising a huge role in the drop of women in computer science.	10. You should let kids learn- not force them to meet standards.
4-26-16	1. When you're in the minority you tend to either fade away or try to blend in.	5-26-16
	2. There's a difference between inherent and acquired diversity and it is important to recognize both.	1. One of the hardest things about being a supervisor is having workers who can do things you can't do.
	3. A group of similar people tend to solve problems in the same way.	2. The internet allows you to get the minimum amount of information you need- helps a lot for a supervisory position.
	4. When people think differently it forces people to think more deeply about the problem at hand.	3. It is important to take sometime in the beginning of a project to set guidelines, expectations, and ideas.
		4. Getting everyone in the same room is a luxury- especially in a professional environment.
		5. Who you are and what you do is more important than how much money you make.
		6. People drop out of jobs because oftentimes there is no seat at the table and can't get their voice heard.
		7. There is an assumption that women are spread too thin.
		8. Women are either likable or a bitch.
		9. Who is promoted is subjective- we tend to promote that look like us.
		10. Parents have a huge influence is whether or not kids going into tech.
		5-30-16

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Diverse contributors understand the unmet needs in under-leveraged markets. 6. When you're a member of the target market then there can be confusion between yourself and the target market. 7. In a less diverse environment then there's less diversity of ideas, less options/ideas, and building things that are too narrow. 8. Technology in the medical field has allowed for more repositories of information, people to self-diagnose, and reduce the impacts of bad handwriting. 9. My credit card information is worth a couple bucks on the black market. 10. You can virtually kill and birth someone and ruin their lives by taking control of their money. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People game because of the social element, procrastination, competition, fun, and for a means of escape. 2. Problems with gaming is that it promotes violence and are desensitizing, they perpetuate stereotypes, and they reduce productivity. 3. Gaming is huge- bigger than films. 4. There is a 50/50 split in gaming between women and men even though the stereotype says that there more men than women. 5. The perception of a lack of women in gaming is self perpetuating. 6. People don't like it when details in their games change. 7. Video games are the fastest growing form of mass media. 8. Yet video games are the industry with some of the most sexualize characters. 9. Average age of male gamers in the US are 30 years old. 10. The person you meet in person is oftentimes very different than the person you meet anonymously. |
| <p>4-28-16</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You can work with tech outside the tech field. 2. Putting tech into fields has its advantages and disadvantages- recognize the downsides to putting more tech in fields. 3. Tech allows news to be communicated in a more immediate and personalized manner. 4. While traditional news broadcasting has decreased, followers on news social media has increased. 5. Tech has allowed more voices and points of view to be heard in news stories. 6. Some industry grow and evolve much faster than other- media and broadcasting industry vs. fuel 7. Tech has allowed news to be communicated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. 8. Mobiles apps, websites, and alternate media sources will increase while traditional media broadcasts decrease. 9. Diversity is important in news because diversity allows more people to see their opinions and ideas reflected in media. 10. Tech also allows false information to spread more easily across social media. | <p>6-3-16</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In college you should focus on networking. 2. In college you should save stuff that you've worked on so you can use it as proof later on. 3. Do things besides school so you can talk about things besides work. 4. Read tech blogs- something to talk about and know about. 5. Take a public speaking class- presentations skills always come in handy. 6. Use glassdoor- know what employees think of the companies that they work for. 7. Interview start-ups aggressively so you know what you're getting into. 8. Networking is hard and scary. 9. Networking gets easier once you ask the first question. 10. Expect change jobs a lot after graduation. |

Objective Assessment

These are the three objectives I set out in the beginning of the quarter.

- Why is there less women in tech?
- How can we get more women in tech?
- Why is it important to have more women in tech?

I am not sure if my objectives changed throughout the class, but my expectations of the class changed. Originally, most of my objectives focused on women within the tech field. This makes sense because the title of the class is gender and information technology. In this class we did learn a lot about gender within the tech industry but we also learned a lot about the tech industry in general and the process of developing a product. Therefore, I think this class meet my objectives and more.

We covered all the objectives that I set out in the beginning of the quarter. We learned that there are less women in tech due numerous complicated factors, including workplace culture, stereotypes, unwanted advances, and implicit gender bias. We learned that we can get more women in tech by acknowledging these gender biases, changing workplace culture, and breaking down stereotypes. Finally, we learned that it is important to have women in the workplace because a more diverse workplace creates better and more profitable products.

However, there was more to the class than gender. In fact, only two of my seven main themes of the course have to do with gender or diversity. Other main themes of the course have to do with networking and tech companies. We learned that companies vary significantly in terms of workplace culture and size and you should know what you are looking for in a company before you commit to one. We also learned about the importance of networking and receiving and giving mentorship.

Overall, this class met my objectives. However, there was much more to the class than the three limited objectives I listed in the beginning of the quarter.

Personal Career Plan

I am not entirely sure what I want my career to look like. Through this class I have learned that I have an interest in building products, UX, and maybe some sort of organizational and management interest. However, I have not narrowed down my interests enough to know exactly where I want my career to go.

That being said, I have an interest in tech and an interest in education. Someday I hope to follow in the footsteps of Trish and combine tech and education. I do not know exactly where those interests will take me. Maybe I will focus on using technology to improve the education industry or maybe I will focus on using education to improve the tech industry. I am not quite sure where I will end up, but I hope that it will combine those two interests.

I know there are some important steps I can take in college in order to build a career regardless of the direction I choose. These are the steps I will follow.

- Take related classes
 - I am applying to the informatics major this quarter and if I get in the informatics classes will give me the background needed to later pursue a technical career.
 - If I do not get into informatics major I will pursue a philosophy degree and try to take as many tech-oriented and education classes as I can. This way I will still try to get the background needed to later pursue a technical career.
- Get real world experience
 - I hope to get some real world experience before leaving college. I plan to spend fall and winter quarter looking for internships and other opportunities.
- Pursue outside interests
 - I am studying abroad this summer and plan to take some sailing classes next fall, as well as continue with the extracurricular activities I am involved with currently.
- Network
 - I plan to make a conscious effort to get to know people, whether it be guest speakers or professors. I also plan to make a LinkedIn account.
- Read tech blogs
 - This summer I plan to spend some time looking up tech blogs and finding ones I find interesting.