

UCS1001 Critical Thinking & Communicating

Assignment 1: Pre- and Post-Learning Reflections

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I've learned multiple things throughout the past 13 weeks, but these three are what I felt were the most impactful for me:

being able to communicate my thoughts and ideas better verbally.

The importance of an open mind

Better writing skills

For point 1, I have learned the importance of being able to verbally communicate clearly and confidently with my teammates and always in front of my audience. Previously, I had issues with stuttering when stating my thoughts and opinions in a formal or work context. This was due to my rushing through things as I wished to start as quickly as possible. However, this has led to multiple delays instead of possible miscommunication, as people may misinterpret my words but also lack confidence in them as my stuttering may be perceived as uncertainty.

As a result, I need to improve my verbal vocabulary, which, while not perfect, is in a better state than before. Just by slowing down in general, I was able to better communicate my thoughts and ideas, both at work and in my personal life.

For point 2, the importance of having an open mind is critical in not only my work but also in my personal life. Before hand, I was more closed-minded in my thinking and had a preconceived notion on things. I will just get a brief look at something and relate it to something I experienced in the past.

However, after going through this course, I have learned to be more open-minded and try to gather more concrete and reliable sources and evidence before coming to a conclusion. That my current mindset can be detrimental to not only my work but also to myself, as I am, in a sense, limiting myself to many things due to my own ignorance. Thus, the need to be more open-minded can prove vital in my personal and working lives.

The last point, although small, means a lot to me since I have always had trouble with my writing skills. Constant repetition, lack of focus However, thanks to this past 13 weeks, I am able

to be more focused with my points and have become better at not repeating my points constantly. Although it still occurs occasionally, it's not as frequent as before, thus saving myself and others who are reading my work time and confusion.

Overall, I had a fun and meaningful time in the past 13 weeks. Learning and understanding things about others and myself along the way. And I hope that I can carry on with this spirit by continuing to learn, understand, and use what I pick up in the future.