

IS3103 Information Systems Leadership and Communication

Reflective Learning Journal (18%)

Reflection is a process of exploring and examining ourselves, perspectives, attributes, experiences and actions/reactions. You will use a log book to systematically jot down your learning experience in IS3103 from the lectures, tutorials, recitations and tasks given, starting in Week 1 to Week 12.

Your reflection may include your views on the topics taught such as business leadership, IS management, and IS leadership, your strengths and areas to improve based on the tasks done in lectures, tutorials, recitations, and projects, plans to improve, useful suggestions you receive from your peer/tutor and areas where you will apply and transfer skills/knowledge. You need to clearly identify **three** lecture topics from lectures L2 to L10 to form the core body of knowledge for your reflections. You should also reflect upon and consider how your IS3103 learning experiences connect with your future IS leadership aspirations.

At the end of Week 13, use your insights in the log book to write a **learning journal of 1,200 -1,500 words**, weaving a story about you and your journey in IS3103. This assignment should be uploaded in a specified folder in Canvas by **Sunday, 13 November 2022, 11.59 pm**.

You will be assessed on the following:

Depth of your reflection	<p>Demonstrates an in-depth reflection and personalisation of theories, frameworks, concepts, tasks and assignments.</p> <p>Shows an ability to create connections and integrate the knowledge acquired in the lectures and experiential tasks in the tutorials, recitations, and project.</p>
Communication skills	Writes in a clear, concise and well-organised manner which resonates with the reader.

Theoretical underpinnings for using reflections in academic and professional contexts

In education, the concept of reflection dates back to the work of John Dewey (1933), who defined it as “active, persistent and careful consideration of any belief or supposed form of knowledge in the light of the grounds that support it and the further conclusion to which it tends” (p. 118). Kolb, Boyatzis and Mainemelis (2001) believe that transformative learning takes place when one demonstrates the capacity to reflect effectively. For Thorpe (2004), reflective learning journals refer to “written documents that students create as they think about various concepts, events or interactions over a period of time for the purpose of gaining insights into self-awareness and learning” (p.328).

Reflective learning is also used in the professional setting. People in the workplace such as CEOs, teachers, doctors, nurses and managers take time to reflect, allowing them to focus on what is important and what might be done differently. An article in Forbes suggests that to be an effective leader, one should keep a leadership journal (Inam, 2017). Harvard Business Review also featured an article which recommends leaders to schedule a time regularly for reflection (Reeves, Torres & Hassan, 2017).

References

- Dewey, J. (1933). *How we think: A restatement of the relation of reflective thinking to the educative process*. Boston: D. C. Heath.
- Kolb, D.A., Boyatzis, R.E. and Mainemelis, C. (2001), "Experiential learning theory: previous research and new directions", in Sternberg, R.J. and Zhang, L.-F. (Eds), *Perspectives on Thinking, Learning, and Cognitive Styles*, Routledge, New York, NY, pp. 227-247.
- Inam, H. (2017, April 2). To be an effective leader keep a leadership journal. *Forbes*. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/sites/hennainam/2017/04/02/to-be-an-effective-leader-keep-a-leadership-journal/#2b2918c43b4d>
- Reeves, M., Torres, R. and Hassan, F. (2017, September 25). How to regain the lost art of reflection. *Harvard Business Review*. Retrieved from <https://hbr.org/2017/09/how-to-regain-the-lost-art-of-reflection>
- Thorpe, K. (2004). "Reflective learning journals: from concept to practice", *Reflective Practice*, Vol. 5 No. 3, pp. 327-343.

Other resources

- Kraemer, H. M (2016, December 2). How self-reflection can make you a better leader. *KelloggInsight*. Retrieved from <https://insight.kellogg.northwestern.edu/article/how-self-reflection-can-make-you-a-better-leader>
- Thiran, R. (2017, August 29). Practise self-reflection to become an effective leader. Retrieved from <https://www.leaderonomics.com/articles/leadership/practise-self-reflection>