Reflection on my writing process and on receiving feedback

Receiving feedback on my synopsis from my peers really helped me getting closer to finding out exactly what I want to write about in my exam paper. It helped me to narrow down the issues that I have presented in my synopsis to a lot fewer. I now know that I can't focus on all the aspects of 'like' that I at first wanted to, but instead I want to focus on the way social media - mostly Instragram - makes a lot of people feel insecure due to all the metrics in the media such as likes, followers etc. Additionally, I realized that I will have to find a lot more material/sources to make this exam paper interesting and not just an extension of the text by Benjamin Grosser 'What Do Metrics Want? How Quantification Prescribes Social Interaction on Facebook' we have read in class. My peers advised me to choose another social media than Facebook to avoid this, so I have chosen to focus on Instagram and to use the 'Facebook Demetricator' as an example or case in my paper.

I also learned that it is important for me to think about how I want balance the papers focus in terms of both analyzing the software and thinking about it from a psychological perspective. Since I want to explore what software does to us, I need to have both aspects. Due to the fact that my synopsis was quite messy and not 'well-written', it was good for me to have others helping me to organize my thoughts about this assignment. One of my peers are thinking about writing about a similar topic as me, so we could use each other's work to further develop our own. Reading her synopsis also gave me some things to think about.

In my synopsis I focused on my ideas and thoughts about the topic and problems that I wish to address and not really on how to write. I think feedback on the writing later on in the process could be really helpful. I haven't learned something about my writing strengths, but instead I have been given some great inputs on how to think about my paper and how I want to structure it and what to focus on.

The process of writing the synopsis got me thinking about my exam paper, but I am still undecided on a lot of things regarding my paper, and I think I could have gotten more out of the exercise if I had been a little longer in the process.