# **Learning Journal Unit 8**

Computer Science, University of the People

UNIV 1001 - Online Education Strategies - AY2024-T1

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**Learning Outcomes**

Throughout the term, I have embarked on a rollercoaster journey that has reshaped my approach to online education. The strategies, insights, and peer interactions have collectively fostered an enriched learning experience and fully convinced me that I have made the right decision to learn at this university.

**Most Useful Strategy**:

It would be almost impossible for me to select a single most important strategy from the many strategies and methods we have learned and practiced in this course. But if I had to pick one to be at the top of the list, I guess it would have to be time management. The art of time management, balancing multiple responsibilities, from coursework to personal obligations, always posed a challenge. The techniques imparted, such as the Pomodoro Technique, breaking tasks into smaller chunks, and setting specific goals, have significantly boosted my productivity. In my future studies, I intend to use these techniques daily. By designating specific times for studying, taking breaks, and ensuring I'm not overwhelmed, I hope to maintain an optimal study-life balance.

**Surprising Learning**:

The thing I was most surprised about was not so much taught in the course but more by doing the course. I thought that online courses would be more rigidly structured, leaving minimal room for autonomy. However, the focus on cultivating an intrinsic motivation to learn, setting personal learning objectives, and taking control of one's education was a refreshing eye-opener. It surprised me because it shifted education's focus from instructor-driven to student-driven, making me more accountable for my learning journey.

**Peer Assessment Reflection:**

In the beginning, I was skeptical and slightly concerned about peer assessment. The thought of having my work evaluated by peers, rather than professionals, seemed a bit peculiar and odd. However, as the weeks progressed, I began to appreciate the dual benefits: the feedback from multiple perspectives and the benefits of learning from giving others feedback. Today, I feel much more comfortable with this model. It has taught me the importance of constructive feedback and has made me more receptive to diverse viewpoints. So, I guess you can call me a changed man.

**In conclusion**, this course has been an eye-opening experience and a great start to my academic journey at UoPeople. The strategies and lessons within will serve as important tools as I navigate future courses. My change from scepticism to appreciation, especially concerning peer assessment, underscores the transformative nature of this course. I'm excited to employ these strategies and insights as I delve deeper into my academic future.

**References:**

1. Learning Guide Unit 8  
   <https://my.uopeople.edu/mod/assign/view.php?id=386267>