

UNSW  
**ELEC4122**  
Term 1, 2019

**Activity Week 6**  
**Working with others**

Very often in life you will need to make judgments about people. This is a necessary part of leadership.

Of itself, making a judgment is neither good nor bad. It is how we do it that may or may not be ethical. That, in turn, may or may not make our leadership more effective. What ‘assumptions’ do we use to fill gaps in our knowledge (given we will never know absolutely everything about anyone)?

This activity is designed to help you explore some of the assumptions you might make and think whether they are ethical or not.

**During Class**

In this activity, work in teams of 5 or 6 students.

**this week’s out-of-class questions**

*critical self reflection:* the process of examining your personal assumptions, i.e. those that exist because of the personal circumstances now and previously in your life, and understanding how they shape behaviour and decisions.

*1. List the important things that you are or that happened to you.*

Each of these influences how you make judgments in the world.

e.g., age, sex, health & physical abilities, nationality, ethnic/cultural background, family circumstances, ‘spiritual’ beliefs, education (both level & subject matter), major life events, financial circumstances (not exhaustive list)

*2. Do you think anyone else has exactly the same set of answers? a twin?*

*3. To what extent can your occupation (engineer) influence the way you judge people?*

**THE FINE PRINT**

This tutorial activity is designed to help you think about your prejudices, which can stop you treating people with respect, if you are not careful.