

Semester One Reflective Report

Comp 230

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Introduction

In this report, I will reflect on my domains, explore my experiences and identifying my faults, I will also list 5 improvements based on those faults while applying S.M.A.R.T objectives to them.

A Reflective Note

Over the past semester, I rarely struggled with the affective domain, my emotional state is something I like to keep personal and not let it affect my work during learning, if I am dealing with some emotional issues I like to separate that from work because I believe its bad practice to do so unless I am including it in a project directly, much like an artist paints a canvas that expresses an emotional state in his/her life. My Interpersonal domain has been effective with the collaborative project in comp 230, I regularly engaged with my partner Dean Harland on the state of the project itself whether or not he needed help on a component like asset design & asked for help myself. My dispositional domain is something that needs to be worked on and is discussed in my second and third fault. My cognitive domain is something that needs improvement and is discussed in my final fault, mathematics plays a huge role on programming and it needs to be improved upon. My procedural domain is fine, my basic rule of computing is that there is no single approach to a problem, there are many and I have applied that rule and many others to the past projects.

Over Complicating Projects - Fault/Improvement 1

This essay was difficult but only because I made it difficult. My Research question in the essay was "To what extent is the media's response to excessive violence and sadism Justified?" I chose this title because I like writing about controversial games. Initially I was going to write about 3 games: Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, HATRED & DOOM 2016. The problem with these titles is that all of them have faced controversy so much so that all of them cannot be written about in 1000 words. I Guess this can be my first issue, over complicating an assignment. One of my lecturers Ed once said "Aim big Milly!" after I told him I could not have picked a harder portfolio project to do; The original design was creating a cube using OpenGL that reacts to music based off sound using FFT technology but as time progressed and my lack of C++ programming knowledge stood it was just too difficult. In the end in order to get a pass I did a simple triangle with no motion. I think to improve this issue I will simply aim for something basic, getting it done fast and study what more advanced & complicated features I could implement. My SMART objective is to apply the SMART method itself to these projects to complete them within the given time of the assignments.

Too Many Objectives- Fault/Improvement 2

Time management is simple I need to manage my time better. Set my alarm at Specific time, make sure I get enough sleep and eat healthily so I do not fall ill and take my regular medication. Doing this I will attend more and more lectures. Plan of action on proving I can do this is to record the amount of hours I have had sleep each day and improve or not then over a given time (such as a 3 weeks) during the next semester I reflect on it and see if I have improved. The same could be said for Work management. The 4 days I do not have lectures I will dedicate 4 hours of studying and 2 towards programming give or take depending on situations life presents me.

My problem solving and learning style I think can all be solved if I communicate more with my lecturers and peers around me, I can do this by making more and more one to one sessions with my lecturers Michael and Ed. This can also be solved by submitting my code to GitHub and create more pull requests so Michael and peers can review code.

My attendance - Fault/Improvement 3

Time Management is something I still need to work on, it has improved since first year most definitely but I still have a way to go. Over the last

semester, I have still been missing lectures due to late nights, lack of sleep and so on. I need to work on my schedule, when and where to do work and what to focus on. This is improved by managing my distractions, stop procrastinating, prioritize my work & set personal goals. My SMART objective for this is to create a schedule for each assignment in the future and set weekly self-updates for those assignments to keep me on track, much like the task of weekly reports in this assignment.

My Referencing - Fault/Improvement 4

This is one of the skills I need to still improve on, my issue is that while the internet is infinite and vast I still find it hard to find sources and reference my research correctly. It's a huge issue, something I found difficult while writing my ethics essay; I would find online articles but not know how to back up statements I made in the essay. This is improved upon by widening my research range & abilities, I usually just focus on online material, and I'm ashamed to say it but I have not gone into any of the university libraries for a book on the subject matter, for future projects I will do so. My SMART objective for this issue would be to read A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses & Dissertations by Kate L. Turabian over the Christmas holidays so I am more prepared for the second semester.

My Mathematic Abilities - Fault/Improvement 5

This is my final and most important objective, I need to improve my mathematics. His problem arose in the OpenGL lectures I found myself being completely lost when Ed was talking about Vectors and advance mathematical algorithms. I think over the semester break I'll take time out to work on understanding more and more of these mathematical problems, I feel like understanding mathematics more and more will help me with my programming too. This is improved by taking an online mathematics course, reading more books & general C++ programming; all of this will be done over the Christmas holidays. A SMART objective cannot really be applied to this as it is something you learn but over the Christmas holidays I would like to rekindle my mathematical abilities using such websites like MyMaths, KhanAcademy & Lynda.com.

Conclusion

This semester has been fun but even now when everything is finished I still feel like I've done terrible, second semester things will be different because I don't want to fail this course and I do want a decent grade. It would be amazing if I could get a 2:1 or a 1st for free but that's not going to happen, I can only get these things by working hard, I cannot afford to treat this year like my first year anymore. I need to get stuck in. Over the holidays, I have set myself a schedule and a to-do list, these objectives are generally learning material to learn & programming practice.