

**TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES – MANILA**

**College of Science**

BS Computer Science 4B

**Life and Works of Rizal**  
**Final Requirement**

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## **Reflection on the Enduring Relevance of Jose Rizal's Life and Works in the Contemporary Philippine Society**

Just like how Jose Rizal is still imprinted in our one-peso coin, his legacy remains in the hearts and minds of the Filipinos. As he is formally introduced to us as early as grade school, we continue to celebrate his life and death in commemorating the important dates in our history. Jose Rizal's life and works showcased his commitment to education and paved the way for Filipinos to realize the social injustices they are subjects to. Rizal's unspoken advocacy for education and uplifting individuals in pursuit of knowledge to fight back ignorance and inequality during the Spanish colonial reminds us that it is still applicable in the contemporary context of the Philippines.

Rizal's literary works particularly "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo" sparked a national consciousness that is not bound by time. These pieces shed light on the injustices of colonial rule and inspired a collective struggle for freedom. Today, as students, we often take for granted the privileges we have and overlook the struggles faced by others. Our country continues to experience social injustices, not just from colonizers, but also from our own countrymen who exploit our vulnerabilities. We are currently facing issues of poor governance, corruption, and social disparity. Some are still sleeping on the important issues and seem satisfied with band-aid solutions. Rizal's call for peaceful reform and national unity continues to resonate. If we Filipinos continue to be awake and educated enough with the right information, we could have done more for our country. Rizal's advocacy for speaking up through the forms of different media over violence serves a crucial reminder that meaningful change can be achieved through a peaceful and non-violent means. Today's technology provides everyone with a platform to share their thoughts and opinions publicly. However, one of the main challenges in mainstream media is that misinformation and disinformation have become significant threats to factual evidence. This is why the ability to discern credible information is an essential skill to possess in this digital era. With that in mind, people who are brave enough to speak up often experience harsh criticisms coming from people who are contrary to his ideas. Jose Rizal's courage and martyrdom symbolizes the ultimate sacrifice for one's beliefs. It takes guts to face oppression, his life and death encourages us to stand up for what is right.

Life and works of Jose Rizal is not just a subject that you must take because it was mandated, it serves its purpose to open the eyes of the youth and speak to everyone's heart and mind. As someone who is actively seeking for the good of my countrymen, I do pray that God will help us stand for what is right and to be given a chance to voice out our concerns. May we become instruments of hope for others and channels of blessings to those in need. I hope that our generation will do its best to carry on the legacy of Jose Rizal for our country.