

# REFLECTION JOURNAL

YOUR FULL NAME

STUDENT ID (TEAM 4D)

This is a template for COMP2S01 reflective journal (**max. 4 pages**). Use the format and font size set in this template. You may type in **bold** or underline any key points. Please support your answers with adequate elaboration, evidence or examples.

## RJ1 -The Impact of Your Service on the Recipients and Community

Our era of technological advancements also brought about information/digital divide in society.

- *The social issue:* How did your understanding of information/digital divide change because of this service-learning subject? (Be specific and explain with detail.)

Before this service-learning course, I thought the information/digital divide meant that digital devices like smartphones, laptops, and the internet were not equally accessible. After this service-learning subject, my understanding has changed. The digital divide is about unequal access to digital devices and understanding the various ways to use digital devices. For example, I thought township students in South Africa might not have had basic technical knowledge before the workshop. Moreover, they do not have mobile phones or understand any technology. During the seminar, those recipients used their smartphones to take pictures for taking notes for our PowerPoint, so they had already had some exposure to technology. At the same time, those recipients have no experience programming or controlling drones. After the workshop, recipients understood how to regulate drones and control AI cameras to do object classification through programming. I greatly sympathize with them because of the digital divide between Hong Kong and South Africa. They can only use essential technological functions, such as taking pictures and recording. Still, they did not use more advanced functions, like programming or identifying objects or images. My reaction shows that I have already recognized and understood the digital divide. I need to pay more attention to helping them use technology in more valuable ways. I learned a lot from the workshop from the digital divide perspective. For recipients with relatively little exposure to technology, I need to explain more to them in the most basic common sense. In similar situations, I will focus more on trying to educate them and help them master several practical ways to use digital devices.

- *Your service:* To what extent do you think your workshop helped address information/digital divide?

My workshop helped, to a lesser extent, to address the information/digital divide, but it was just a tiny step. Indeed, my workshop helped our recipients master some straightforward

# REFLECTION JOURNAL

programming skills in Mind+ to control AI cameras and drones to do something. Still, I only helped them through these limited few hours and taught them only through Zoom. This workshop is not enough for them to assimilate knowledge. We are only helping them with how to utilize the technology. To bridge this divide for good, we need to provide a service beyond just teaching them how to use Mind+ and apply their technology, thereby increasing their exposure to it. This would help them become more competent in understanding the underlying concepts and better equipped to apply their knowledge. I empathize with them because of the difference in understanding level between our recipients and secondary school students in Hong Kong. Although they are of a similar age, our recipients barely got in touch using search engines. They never had any idea about technology because our recipients are in a less developed town and have limited access to the computer. In similar situations, the best way forward is to share as much knowledge as possible. This helps to reduce the digital divide between distinct groups of people. It gives everyone an equal opportunity to gain access to information and advances their understanding of technology and its many uses. Therefore, I will always strive to bridge this divide by introducing relevant resources such as educational materials and computer basics tutorials.

- *The recipients & community:* Did you observe any changes in your recipients before and after the service? To what extent do you think the changes are important to your service recipients? What long term consequences do you think the experience will have on them?

Gratifyingly, I could observe changes in the attitudes of my service recipients after the workshop. They became more creative, communicated better with us, and adapted to more technology. These changes were essential for my service recipients. I was pleased to see them adopt a much more positive attitude to these interactive activities, such as coding with Mind+ and solving questions related to flying route calculation on day 2 and day 3 workshops. I had not expected that they would be able to finish programming the sample codes on the day 3 workshop, but they managed to do it quickly. This made me proud of their progress, which showed how much they had grown in creativity and communication skills. Overall, the workshop was a huge success, and I am sure my service recipients will take something tangible away from it. With this experience, my recipients can communicate more confidently and creatively, which will have long-term consequences. They will be better suited to express their ideas effectively and be more open to collaborating. This newfound confidence and creativity will help them adapt to digital devices and software such as drones, HUSKYLENS, and Mind+. This workshop will help them learn new things even quicker, and they can use technology to enhance their communication and creative skills further. Therefore, it is safe to say that this experience will have a lasting impact on how my recipients use technology and manage contact with others.

# REFLECTION JOURNAL

## RJ2- Learning from Your Experience

Think critically about your positive and negative experiences from service-learning.

a) What was the most challenging incident or difficult part of your experience? What did/can you learn from it? How do/does the learning gain(s) benefit your future development (e.g. study and/or career)?

The most challenging incident I faced was not having enough time to adjust the program codes for the flying route on competition day. After the on-site investigation, it became clear that the recipients had not measured all the distances and angles of the flying routes. This was something our team had not discussed in the day 3 workshop, and it meant our team had no backup plan. It was a tricky situation, but I was determined to be creative and adapt to overcome this challenge. I immediately started talking with my teammates about how we could still make it work. We knew that communication and collaboration were vital to finding a solution. Although it was a stressful experience, our team learned valuable lessons from this situation. We learned that communication is key to any successful project and how important it is to have backup plans just in case problems arise. Most importantly, we learned how to be creative and adapt when facing complex challenges.

b) What was the most *memorable incident or rewarding part* of your experience? What did/can you learn from it? How do/does the learning gain(s) benefit your future development (e.g. study and/or career)?

The most rewarding part of this service-learning subject is changing the teaching material for solving right triangles. In the day 2 workshop, my recipients in session 1 did not have basic knowledge about the triangle, so I changed my teaching material for session 2 to include an easy calculator to process. And soon, they understood how to calculate the angle and the length of the triangle in some exercises. In the day 3 workshop, I teach the session 1 recipients the method in the second session of the day 2 workshop. They grasped it much more quickly on day three of the workshop. I am happy and feel a sense of accomplishment after teaching about the right triangle. I did not consider their understanding level; they may not understand what I am talking about, and they may forget something as time passes. In the future, maybe I'll be a teacher, I will show more empathy and compassion to others and show respect for the needs and feelings of recipients, as well as other people's understanding levels that I will meet in the future.