Anna Arutyunova

Reflection Week 1

Total Points: 100

1. What did I do to prepare for class this week? (5pts)

I read President Eyring’s talk “A Steady Upward Course”, and underlined the parts I like the most. I also read “Teamwork: The Most Vital Soft Skill” by Elisabeth Kasson. I also attended both classes and participated in a team activity we had on Wednesday.

1. What topics were studied this week, and what are their definitions? (5pts)

I think we just mostly talked about what this class is about. I learned that we are not going to program in this class, rather we are going to work on some other projects in teams that are going to be formed later.

1. What did I learn from the study material? (5pts)

One thing I noted for myself was from “Teamwork” The Most Vital Soft Skill”. Work ethic, motivation, initiative, and customer service were pushed down on the list of topmost desirable soft skills by teamwork. I never thought that teamwork was at the top of the list. Work ethic always made more sense to me.

1. Why is this week’s topic important? (5pts)

Well, this week we primarily defined teamwork and talked about its importance. It was good for me because I heard mostly negative things about this class. But this week’s classes set expectations for me and helped me understand that I need to take this class to be a better team member because it is a highly valued skill.

1. What is the most significant take-a-way you have gained from your study this week? (10pts)

I’ve actually never read President Eyring’s famous talk all the way through, although I’ve wanted to do that for a while. So, my main take-a-way was from the talk. This university is what I make it. I really liked that idea. I am often worried that I am not getting the best education available. But it was a very comforting thought to get reminded that I am responsible for what I get from this school. I will get a great education if I make it that way.

1. Why is this week’s topic important for teamwork? (20pts)

I think this question goes along with the last one. I personally wasn’t very excited to participate in this week’s team activity. But I think it’s important to realize that the more effort you put into teamwork the more you will get out of it personally, and the better the result will be overall. It is what you make out of it.

1. What would you do differently next week? (10pts)

I want to try to talk to more of my classmates before class to get to know them. I struggle to be friendly and social, but deep down I want it. I will also try to be more actively engaged in team activities.

1. How do you plan on contributing to the team, besides completing your tasks? (20pts)

My answer might change when I get a better idea of what projects we are going to be working on. And since I don’t have a good idea of it yet, I think I will try to contribute by trying to genuinely care for my teammates and building meaningful connections with them. I will try to gain their trust and I work on letting them know that I can help any of them if they need anything.

1. If this was a religion class, how would you relate this week’s topic to the gospel. (20pts)

The first thing that comes to mind is the church. My dad says that you give a lot to and in the church (time, money, and other resources). You also get a lot from the church (personal growth, meaningful relationships, other blessings). But if you don’t go to the temple and don’t get temple blessings, it’s almost like you give more than receive. I think if I don’t put the effort in teamwork in this class, I will not gain nearly as much from this class as I can if I actively participate.