Reflections throughout the module

Statistical analysis skills.

At the start of the academic year, I expected statistical analysis to be very difficult and something which I should not concentrate on as I thought I could avoid it by carrying out qualitative analysis of data. Moreover, I already had significantly less knowledge and skills of statistical analysis as I did not learn about it in my academic years when I was younger. compared to my peers who demonstrated in live seminar sessions that they already have statistical analysis skills.

Studies have demonstrated that the results of qualitative cannot be analysed to come to a conclusion if they are statistically meaningful, i.e. if they might have happened by chance. As a result, the findings cannot be generalised to a larger population. Thus, the use of statistics to produce and then evaluate quantitative data brings validity to it, making the data more dependable and objective overall as compared to qualitative data. (Ahmad, et al., 2019)

Moreover, studies suggest Individuals with a growth mindset realize that their capabilities are not fixed, even if they feel that they are struggling with specific tasks. They believe that through hard work, their skills would develop with time (Rhew, et al., 2018).

So therefore, by undergoing the Research Method Module and reading essential journals I realised that Statistical analysis using Quantitative data is important too as much as qualitative data analysis and that in some cases quantitative data is significant and cannot be avoided for in depth and accurate results.

To improve my mindset in the future, by thinking that something is difficult and trying to avoid doing it is not a good approach. instead, I should read journals and ensure I am interested in the subject and complete worksheets which will help me gain sufficient skills and help me in the future. By gaining statistical analysis skills I can apply this to my Final module, the masters research project, and not shy away from using qualitative analysis data for effective research analysis and findings.

Research methods process based on learning in this module

I did not expect that there are quite a few aspects of the research methods process in order to create a research project. Every one of the processes hold a significant importance, if one of them is missing then the project will be unsatisfactory. By undergoing the research methods module, we learnt the processes I managed to understand and gained knowledge of all of them. But did not quite understand the importance of making sure each of the process is clearly defined in the project. After submitting my research proposal presentation for the module and receiving feedback I did not clearly explain the research problem and significance of it and only wrote about it inside my literature review. This is an aspect which my tutor picked out on, thereafter I realised and learnt that each of the research method processes need to have a dedicated section that clearly explains the process.

So, it can be said that by conducting two assignments as well as, reviewing lectures and reading essential material I have developed an understanding of the research methods process. This knowledge and skills are useful and essential for me to use in the next module, which is the final master’s project, additionally I can utilise this knowledge in the future if I wish to conduct a research project independently.

Impact on personal/professional experience based on completed Professional Skills Matrix and Action Plan.

A significant aspect of which I was not mostly aware of was ethical considerations, as I had not learnt about it in depth in my previous academic years. But my knowledge dramatically improved after studying academically and independently regarding ethical considerations. I am now able to understand the important requirement of complying with laws, and the specific laws which we need to adhere to as IT professionals, such as the GDPR, Code of conduct etc (Jisc, 2018).  and have gained the skills and knowledge of maintaining privacy and confidentiality professionally as well as the importance of it. Consequently, it is important to remember to always adhere to ethical standards and ensure that it is our duty to protect participant’s from harm when carrying out research. As a result In the future I am able to demonstrate my knowledge to the workplace, and when carrying out a project I could perhaps ask for a second opinion from a professional to ensure the ethical standards are being met.

For my personal development I included in my Action Plan that I wish to improve in my team work, communication, problem solving skills, analytical skills. I aimed to achieve this by completing assignments participate in group discussions. I feel I have developed significant skills now that we are at the end of the year through independent reading, undergoing assignments, attending lectures. and am able to apply these skills professionally in the future

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