

Major Reflection: Part 2

PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH YOUR REFLECTION.

For each of the questions below, take some time to reflect on the key concepts from this course that have been particularly helpful and meaningful. You may find it helpful to review the course modules and previous assignments as each question asks you to include references to specific content addressed in this course. If you were not employed this term, consider experiences you may have had in other work or academic terms, or via extracurricular activities (i.e., Working in a group, presentations, volunteering positions, personal experience, etc.).

Question 1

Select one of the prompts below and address it in detail, drawing from your learning and experiences this term.

Use the DEAL Model of Reflection to respond to your chosen prompt. Information on how to use the DEAL model to reflect can be found on the "How to Write a D.E.A.L. Reflection" page located in the Assignment section of Learn and linked to from the Major Reflective Report assignment page.

Prompt A

A: Describe how some aspect of your work experience this term helped you understand a PD8 concept, skill/technique, or tool better.

Sometimes we learn things in a course but do not fully understand them until we have an unplanned but related real-life experience. For example, maybe you worked (or studied, or competed, etc.) with someone whose cultural background is different from yours or experienced value differences in team dynamics. Or perhaps a supervisor (or professor, or friend, or family member) shared stories about their own intercultural experiences.

1. **Describe:** Describe the concept, skill/technique, or tool, and describe the experience in detail (who, what, where, when).
2. **Examine:** Explain how your experience helped you better understand the concept, skill/technique, or tool – reference specific course material where applicable.
3. **Articulate Learning:** How will this experience (what you have learned) impact how you act or approach intercultural situations in the future (or even just situations which involve different perspectives and motivations)? How might this learning transfer to different contexts (e.g. online vs. in person) or workplaces?

Prompt B

B: Describe how you deliberately sought to practice (or observe) what you learned in this course in a concrete experience this term. What did you (or someone else) intend to achieve? What actually happened? For example, maybe you tried (or observed) a different style of communication or asked questions to understand someone's values or reflected on how you reacted to a cultural difference you experienced.

1. **Describe:** Describe the instance in which you deliberately practiced or observed something related to the course. Describe both the intention and what happened.

2. **Examine:** How was the outcome different or similar to the intention? Why was there a difference between intent and outcome? Was your practice attempt (or the attempt you observed) successful? Could it have been more successful? How did what happened impact your understanding of course content (reference specific course material where applicable)?
3. **Articulate Learning:** How will this experience impact how you act or approach situations in the future? How might this learning transfer to different contexts (e.g., online vs. in person) or workplaces?

Prompt C

C: Describe something in PD8 that surprised or challenged or unexpectedly intrigued you. Perhaps it was something that gave you insight into yourself or made sense of a situation you experienced or observed in the past. Perhaps it was something you had not thought of before that shed new light on the topic of the course or made you rethink something you thought you knew.

1. **Describe:** Describe something you learned in this course that particularly resonated with you in some way, expanded your understanding, and/or stretched your thinking. What was your reaction to what you learned?
2. **Examine:** Why do you think what you learned had the impact that it did? What questions do you still have?
3. **Articulate Learning:** How will this experience (what you learned) impact how you act or approach situations in the future? How might this learning transfer to different contexts (e.g. online vs. in person) or workplaces?

*WORD COUNT: Your answer should be between 300 and 500 words **total**.*

WHICH PROMPT ARE YOU ANSWERING (A, B, or C):

INCLUDE YOUR ANSWER TO Q1 HERE:

Describe

Examine

Articulate Learning

Question 2

We are typically most satisfied when we are doing work that we enjoy and/or feel is important or fulfilling in some way. Consider what you enjoy about your work (type of work, work environment, etc.). Describe how concepts you learned about in PD8 helped you better understand what you enjoy or find fulfilling in your work.

When answering, incorporate **at least three** of the prompts into your answer. Please separate each prompt into its own paragraph. Highlight the prompts you reference.

Note: You are **not** expected to use the DEAL format for this question. To clarify, this question is about what you enjoy in your work regardless of your skill, knowledge, or confidence while Q3 is about your knowledge and confidence regardless of your enjoyment.

- Do you feel that the reason(s) you feel more or less comfortable in certain work environments is because of how they align (or don't align) with your cultural values and preferences?
- What are some cultural differences in workplaces that you feel are easier or more difficult to adapt to?
- How has anything you learned in this course helped explain what you did or did not enjoy about your work experience this term (or previous experiences)?
- How might working with people from different backgrounds and perspectives influence what you find enjoyable and/or fulfilling?
- How might intercultural skills be essential to achieving the kinds of work goals you feel are important?
- How might what you learned this term might help you positively impact the world. For example, consider how improved intercultural skills might help you positively impact the wellbeing of people, the environment, or the economy? The section in Unit 9 on the UNs Sustainable Development Goals might help you make these connections.

WORD COUNT: Your answer should be between 300 and 500 words **total**.

INCLUDE YOUR ANSWER TO Q2 HERE:

Question 3

We also tend to feel more satisfied when we are doing work we are good at. Your future work will definitely require working with people with different values, perspectives, and motivations (whether culturally-based or otherwise) – perhaps a little, perhaps a lot. Describe how competent and confident you currently feel about your intercultural skills and how you can build on what you've learned in this course.

When answering, integrate **all** of the following prompts into your answer. Each prompt should be addressed in its own paragraph.

It may be helpful to review the “Future-Proofing Your Skills” content from Unit 9 to see examples of how intercultural skills covered in PD8 are related to career competencies.

Note: You are **not** expected to use the DEAL format for this question. To clarify, this question is about your knowledge and confidence regardless of your enjoyment while Q2 was about what you enjoyed regardless of skill, knowledge, or confidence.

- How would you rate your cultural competence at the beginning of this course and how you would rate your cultural competence now? Perhaps you underestimated or overestimated your original ability.
- How have any of your experiences this term (course, work, or other) highlighted gaps in your cultural competence?
- How could you practice and improve in an aspect of cultural competence, or build on existing strengths, over the next term or so?

*WORD COUNT: Your answer should be between 300 and 500 words **total**.*

INCLUDE YOUR ANSWER TO Q3 HERE: