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Assignment 12.3

Lessons Learned

First, one thing that went well was that we introduced ourselves and immediately started discussing our availability. By examining our availability, we could plan and be aware of when some people would not be able to work on the project. This helped because we quickly realized that most of us were busier towards the end of the week, which meant that most of the project needed to be completed at the beginning of the week. This was the case for week one.

Of course, we did have a great foundation and were doing well towards the middle of the week, though we started to slow down. We had a fifth member on our team that we had not heard from. I do not know if any of us knew what happened to Sean. We are curious to see if he dropped out or did not want to participate in the group project. Nevertheless, we were all trying to decide whether to reach out to the professor about what to do about a student not participating. Then, when the assignment was due at the end of the week, we all decided to move forward with the project. We could not wait to hear from Sean. Like in the real world, a person may be unavailable, and none of us will know why. In show business, we have a saying, “The show must go on.” That is precisely what we did.

Another thing that went well was our communication through this online platform called a discussion board. Here, everyone could share their thoughts and ideas, collaborate, and stay on the same page, even though we have never had an official quote-unquote meeting, such as a Zoom meeting or even a phone call. Nevertheless, we were chatting in a professional setting where someone would say what they did and what needed to be done, and someone else could take over.

I found this practical and valuable as it allowed the project to keep progressing, even though we all had worked on something at a completely different time from someone else. For example, there were times when I would go on and do something at one in the morning Pacific Central Time while I am sure no one else was on, as most of the other team, it probably would have been three in the morning their time, and to be honest, I do not think it is a good idea for anyone to be up at three in the morning unless you are just waking up.

One thing that can be improved here is that I wish we had at least one official meeting over Zoom or even a phone call. That way, we could all be together simultaneously and share thoughts and ideas that cannot be easily expressed through a discussion board. I wanted to share a few thoughts and ideas, but I was scared to put them on a discussion board because I feared they would be rude and unprofessional. In this case, I would rather work get done some other way that would not be to my standards rather than make it look like I was trying to be a bully.

Another way to improve in the future is not to wait so long to hear from someone we might never hear from. We never heard from Sean; in this case, we should not have waited to see. We should have assumed we would not hear from him and immediately proceeded forward.

A lesson that would help in the corporate world was creating a project using nothing but a discussion platform like a discussion board. I can imagine there will be many times in my career when I will never be on a call with a team, but something important will still need to be done, and there will still always be a deadline in which that thing needs to be done. In the real world, unlike in school, that thing that we need to get done needs to be done well, so a lesson that I learned here that will help me is that something can be created and finished without ever speaking face-to-face. I had never experienced such a thing, and it is remarkable that something can be done without a typical meeting.

It shows me how powerful social media can be because when you think about it, all social media is it is a bunch of people going on at various times and sharing thoughts and ideas on a chat-like platform, but never speaking face-to-face, and altogether creating and collaborating to make something unique in the world. And what is more ironic is that some people, such as software developers, can go on social media and get paid for it.