

Unit 4 Reflection

In this unit, the focus was to prepare the literature review outline for a chosen topic. I chose to look at literature dealing with Implementing Machine Learning Tools or Techniques to Predict Traffic Accidents. This topic is interesting to me because I want to gain insight into how technology can be leveraged to predict (and prevent) traffic accidents, given that society still requires people to drive vehicles. Looking at initial literature, I uncovered an interesting topic referred to as “Vehicle to Everything” that provides capability for vehicles to be connected to other vehicles.

The content of the unit is mainly focused on building research surveys, using focus groups and case studies. I like the idea of quantitative observation as opposed to qualitative because qualitative observation—dealing with people in their environment exhibiting true thoughts and emotions—seems as if it will be more difficult to utilise in a master’s final project. Why? Because very likely whatever the master’s final project topic is, will require a researcher to spend time with participants in a comfortable environment or office space. This seems, on the surface, to be rather troublesome.

I have not yet settled on a final topic and find it challenging to follow the guidance of this module. The area of computer science is vast, and according to the module’s e-book by Dawson (2015), the goal of literature review is not to *add* to the existing body of knowledge, but rather, to *use* what already *exists* to form new ideas and opinions or approaches to solutions. However, the final topic is unfamiliar territory and it would be very helpful if Essex University Online could provide examples of format, topics, or guidance on how to settle on a topic when none is obvious.

References

Dawson, C. (2015). *Projects in Computing and Information Systems: A Student’s Guide*. Harlow: Pearson.