

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Mona Anita Olsen, Professor  
FROM: Matthew Teng  
RE: Make A Difference Values  
DATE: May 12, 2018

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This memorandum will discuss the three main values that I plan bring with me on my path in the future.

Over the duration of this course, there are three main values that I plan to utilize for the future. The first value, is to understand that there are inherently subjective opinions on any topic or issue, and these views do not necessarily represent an objective viewpoint. My takeaway from this value is that I should listen to everyone's opinions to better formulate an idea or to develop my understanding of a certain topic or the like, but to not take anyone else's opinion and completely agree to it without having my own thoughts first.

The second value, which I realized from the brainstorming activity we did when Mr. Ozakbas visited, is to make use of an iteration process. What I specifically want to takeaway from this experience was to just keep brainstorming ideas, and to slowly refine them, instead of eliminating any unfeasible ideas from the start. It's possible to integrate some of the features or ideas that were removed through the iteration process at a later date as well. This is actually a process or value that I have started to implement with my work already. For instance, the latest technical project I engaged in, <http://miraj.gq/>, my group members and I had many initial ideas that we did not believe that we could implement (we still kept these ideas in a backlog), but after finishing the core functionality of our work, we were able to go back and feature them as a part of our user interface in the application.

The last value that I have taken away – help others before they can help you – is one that influences my character, rather than the pragmatic processes that the other two values are related to. From Arel Moodie's talk, I was impacted by the way he approaches relationships and how that essentially changes the dynamic of the relationship. For the most part, I appreciate this idea he put forth, but I do want to alter it slightly. While I still believe that helping others before they can help you is fantastic, I think the main notion I will chose to make use of in the future is to be open and creative with how you establish new relationships.

Regards,  
Matthew Teng