***SOFTWARE STUDIES***

Reflection on writing process and feedback

Reflecting upon writing my exam synopsis, structure is one the of the first things that come to my mind. My synopsis, my ideas, and my thoughts regarding the Software Studies exam definitely lack a great deal of structure. I found it very difficult to begin writing the synopsis paper, because I didn’t know where to start. I believe this is because I find a lot of things very interesting; I want to dig deeper into a lot of different subjects, and when writing the synopsis, I found it difficult to narrow them down. As a result, the synopsis came out as sort of a very unstructured list of ideas and examples with a lot of side notes that I am probably not going to be able to fit into my actual exam paper when I write it. Both during and after writing the synopsis, it became clear to me that I need to structure my ideas and narrow down the subjects that I am going to address. To be able to do this, I plan to read through my synopsis a couple of times and abstract the main ideas – afterwards, I plan on going through my summaries of the texts that we have read so far in the software studies course, and depict the most relevant ones where I see a connection to the subjects I want to work with. I also think it would be a good idea for me to skim through some of the relevant texts again before deciding a hundred percent on what topic I choose.

After writing the synopsis, I started wondering whether my ideas and the things that I immediately found interesting were actually relevant to this course. I discussed this a lot with my study group, each of them having, to greater or lesser degree, thought the same thing. We all felt – and especially me I think – that our approach was kind of sociological, psychological or philosophical. Maybe the subjects lacked the technical approach that I find to be very important in the course of Software Studies.

Reflecting on the feedback I received from my study group, I definitely hear them recommending me to narrow down my train of thought to a few subjects that I know for sure are approachable. We talked about how it is obviously very relevant that I am able to find information about the different things that I want to investigate. They suggested that I might use the Facebook Messenger as a starting off point so as to prevent myself from making detours to a lot of other things that I find interesting. I will definitely take this advice to be more focused and to concentrate on a smaller amount of ideas.