Personal Statement ECE297: Lessons Learned Soon Chee Loong 999295793

This paper assesses my performance in programming, written communication, and teamwork skills and propose strategies for improvement in order for my team to obtain an excellent grade for the course ECE297: Communication and Design. In this course, the challenges I faced were programming in teams, writing excellent reports, and dealing with my teammates weaknesses. If I were to repeat this course, I will inform my teammates on errors I find in their work, work on the visual component of the written report, and divide work based on each individual's strength.

I face challenges of programming in teams for this course despite being an excellent programmer myself. The programming workloads in this course were impossible for me to complete them myself. In Milestone 2, I disliked my teammates' work due to their code being inefficient, prone to errors, low adaptability, and failing test cases. Therefore, I spend my time to changed most of it completely, which hindered us from debugging our code in time. As a result, we submitted our code late for Milestone 2 in order to identify and fix our errors. For Milestone 3, I learn to inform my teammate about errors I found in their code to let them fix it instead of fixing it myself. As a result, we finish our Milestone 3's coding assignment in time and passed all the given test cases. If I were to repeat this course, I would always inform my teammate if I identify bugs in their code so that they can fix it themselves.

I face challenges in the written communication portion as I suffer to write excellent reports. Also, I did not read the assignment requirements carefully as I failed to include the Written Use Case into the report, a task that was my responsibility to get done. As a result, my team was not able to get an A for our Design Document 2. If I were to repeat this course, I will work on the visual components of the reports as I am able to create excellent tables and diagrams and can allow my team mates who were better in writing to have time to write the documents in order to achieve excellent marks for our written documents. I will also read the instructions more carefully to make sure my team completes all the requirements for the design documents.

Initially, I face challenges in teamwork as well because my group mates have different strengths and weaknesses. My teammate, Jung Kwon was weak in both written report and programming. However, her strength lies in making sure we followed all the instructions. As the team leader, I assigned her to focus on the citations and checking that all our points were justified. Besides that, I assigned her to work on the test cases as she knew what our program

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must be able to do. As a result, she was able to identify errors in our program easily and we could fix them in time. My other teammate, Jerry, was excellent in getting his work done quickly. Unfortunately, he dislikes meeting up and prefers to work separately. Therefore, I assigned him the initial programming tasks as he completes them fairly quickly, which allowed us to implement future coding tasks that depends on the initial programming tasks separately.

To conclude, I will always inform my teammates on errors I find in their code, work on the visual and non-written components of the written report, and assign work based on each individual's strength if I were to retake this course in order to obtain an excellent grade for this course.