

**FOUN 1014:CRITICAL READING & WRITING FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES  
& SCIENCE&TECJHNOLOGY**

**FINAL REFLECTION**

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class:Stream1(Monday)  
time:10am-12pm

### Applying offline Skills in an online age

In this age of increasing uncertainty and with everything becoming digital, offline skills must be applied to online spaces and platforms in order to succeed in a digital world; if not one may find themselves mercilessly left behind. With this in mind, my Critical Reading and Writing for Medical Sciences and Science and Technology (FOUN 1014) experience was rich and eye opening. It allowed me to fully appreciate the value that can be gained from using online platforms such as Whatsapp, Zoom, Google docs and so on, as well as become more acquainted with the feature that these platforms offer. In my view, the two most significant insights gained about FOUN1014 through the use of collaborative tools are: Communication is necessary to succeed in this course and that being successful in this course is largely dependent on the ability of persons in a group to collaborate with each other .

As mentioned previously, communication is necessary to succeed in this course. Communication was a crucial part of my own personal success and that of my group throughout the entire course. I had gained this insight from an unfortunate situation, where I had lost my internet connectivity for over a week due to an issue with my service provider. During this time I was unable to access my classes and new notes however realizing that this was a serious problem, I decided to go on the road everyday in an attempt to resolve the situation. In those brief moments of connectivity, I was able to communicate with my FOUN1014 group and also other groups allowing me to stay update on what was happening through the use of Whatsapp. It was through

Whatsapp that my group members reminded about the assignment that was due for the annotated bibliography and to search for sources for the Scientific Research Paper. Thankfully, I learnt that Whatsapp had a feature called Whatsapp web which allowed to link my phone to my computer; giving me access to notes and documents from the various groups I was apart of and the ability to download to my computer. This made the situation more manageable. Reflecting on this incident, what struck me was that without a useful tool such as Whatsapp, I probably would not have been able to communicate with my FOUN1014 group or any of my other groups. Going forward, I will to continue to communicate with people through Whatsapp and other similar platforms as I now see how beneficial they can prove to be. In the future, the knowledge gained from this insight will be applied to groups projects I will be apart of professionally as programmer.

Just as important as communication is the ability of persons to collaborate with others in a group. Collaboration is a key element of success in this course. In FOUN1014, there were a number of group assignments where collaboration was necessary in order to succeed. An example was when my group had to complete the drafts for the scientific research paper. We used Google Docs to document and edit our ideas from our sources in real-time on a single platform and used Zoom to discuss these ideas. By observation of my group members I learnt that a copy of a Google Doc could be saved as a word document which then can be later reviewed even when off line. Through these platforms we were able not only to meet to share ideas but critique the ideas of each other in the group. By examining that experience, what is clear to me now is that platforms such as these are extremely crucial to collaboration of ideas now more than ever especially in this digital age. I therefore will continue to use these platforms but in order to maximize the benefits in the future I will spend

more time learning about their features. Professionally, I intend to apply this knowledge from this experience professionally to programming in code collaboration and documentation with others in group projects.

Upon Reflection on these important lessons gained from these insights, personally they have caused to consider exploring how to communicate more effectively with others online and physically. Academically, I know that these insights will be of use to me in helping me to achieve my degree in computer science as there courses in computer science where group work is essential in order to be successful in passing those courses. The IDEO video reinforced the whole concept of collaboration to me as it shown it the video that the team members had to pool their ideas and designs in order to eventually create a working trolley cart.