

Group Reflection

| | |
|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Pete</p> | <p>As this was my first group assessment in university study, I was a bit worried at the start I would not be able to find a group. I felt extremely happy one day when I got a message from another member asking if I would like to join their group, thanks Scott. What I think went well in our group is that everyone's ideas and opinions were listened to and actioned in all of our group meetings. I believe we all respected each other and gave each other time to speak. I believe we all had a clear goal to achieve at the end and we all contributed to finishing this assignment. Another thing that went well is when a member was faced with an obstacle or difficulty, we would all help to make sure the problem was rectified, truly a good aspect of working in a team!</p> <p>We could improve on being clearer about the designation of tasks and to make sure that we continually update what is still to be done and who is assigned to these tasks. In all, I was surprised at how well the group worked together and how well the workload was shared between all members. I believe something I have learned as a group, is it offers a great advantage on being able to get feedback from other members on how the assignment is going and what could be improved</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Laura Lam</p> | <p>Throughout the duration of the assignment, the attendance of the team meetings (occurring predominantly twice a week) was consistent for all team members. Within these meetings, everyone contributed with great ideas and we were able to delegate tasks to be completed individually or in a collaborative manner to work towards the completion of the report, as well as building our group website. In truth, the one thing that surprised me was how well the team worked together! There are teams that don't communicate or have low participation, so I feel fortunate that wasn't the case here.</p> <p>In terms of improvement, there was a mild case of miscommunication at the very start in which there was uncertainty on which section was assigned to who, and this resulted in a doubling up of tasks. This was resolved very quickly and became a non-issue by the end of the project through clear communication via the team meetings and Microsoft Teams chat. I've learned that if you have a group of dedicated, hard-working individuals, it makes for an extremely effective team environment which will also be reflected in future projects.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Alicia North</p> | <p>Firstly, the most obvious thing that I discovered was the advantage of working as part of a group. Advantages in a way that we, successfully all meet online in Teams and collaborated on ideas, we carefully listened to each other's ideas and opinions without judgement, and came up with solutions. I found the energy and enthusiasm of the group's participation made me feel more energetic about contributing. We also had plenty of laughs along the way, which the humour made for a positive team environment, lighting the mental load.</p> <p>I have learnt that time is something that for some reason goes really fast, the closer the deadline looms, so in hindsight from this group experience I think starting the larger bodies of work earlier could have been improved, giving us more breathing space before the due date.</p> <p>I shouldn't have been surprised, but I was surprised that everyone contributed. Based on my previous experiences when I have worked in groups, there has always been members who have not participated and/or not actively contributed. So I was quite surprised and glad to be a member of this team, in that regard.</p> <p>From working in groups I have learnt that we all have our own unique set of skills, strengths and weaknesses. It takes good team communication and team work to discover and identify who within the team has what strengths. Being able to focus work/tasks around utilising those strengths is also something I learnt through group work (using what we have and working with it).</p> |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| <p>Sabina</p> | <p>Talking about the group assignment, I was a bit anxious about finding a group and how we are going to collaborate to finalise our second assignment but now we are at the final stage of Assignment 2 submission and I feel very confident and happy with our group. The main highlight of our group is working together and managing time to have meetings. Our video conference, individual task and notes on Google Doc, Ms team chat and Agenda email was credible. During the meeting, everyone was able to share their ideas, and managed to put up our own individual task in Google Doc precisely to keep track of the task. At the early stage of group forming, there was some misunderstanding with the task distribution which created double work. However, with better communication through email and Microsoft team chat option, we were able to resolve the matter in no time. One thing that surprised me was great teamwork and ownership and one thing I have learned about groups is every member was very helpful and dedicated towards their task. Something that could be improved in upcoming group work is to be more open and prepared well before meeting so that everyone can be interactive and discuss promptly which will enable us to finish the meeting in a short time.</p> |
| <p>Scott Gaskin</p> | <p>As a team we have worked amazing together. We all have our own skills and have blended perfectly. I feel the only thing we could have done better is to potentially meet earlier to get a start on this project. We have worked cohesively and been able to turn out some amazing work.</p> <p>The dynamic of the team has also been outstanding, we all can have fun whilst working together and that has made it easy to get things done as a group. On reflection of past group assignments in comparison to this one it has been like chalk & cheese. We are a well-organized group that has come together to solve problems. In the past I have been part of groups and not heard from team members until the final week of major assignments. This is far from the case for our team, regular communication Via MS teams & regular video calls each week.</p> <p>It has also been an open forum for all to discuss progress and what has gone well working through the workload we had assigned for the week.</p> <p>Truly I cannot speak highly enough of this team and really look forward to the next two parts of this course assignment.</p> |
| <p>Symeon</p> | <p>With this being my first university group assessment, I was genuinely surprised at how smooth it was. Using MS teams for collaboration made all the work and progress visible to all members of the team, and it allowed us to set goals and stay on track. All team members have stayed productive throughout the whole assessment period and I am happy to work on future assessments with them! We had group meetings weekly, sometimes two a week, and this gave us allocated time to catch up with each other and discuss anything that needed to be addressed. From this group assessment, I have learned that it is crucial for all members of the team to put in equal effort and communicate with each other on a regular basis.</p> <p>The only thing I can think of to improve the group's experience as a whole would be to tackle the larger and more demanding aspects of the assessment early. As we approach the due date, we are having to rush a bit in order to meet the rubric demands and specifications. Regardless, I believe we have done a great job as a team and everyone has put in the effort required to get a good mark.</p> |

Team Reflection

As a group we all believe and feel that this was overall a positive group experience.
In regard to each team member's own reflection, we can see that there are some trends in our opinions.

What went well?

- Members have identified that we worked respectfully together, giving each other the time to be heard and have their say. As a team we all had the same goal/focus on achieving and completing this assignment. Our team demonstrated exemplary desired team qualities whereby members were able to openly ask for assistance and it was no trouble at all for another member to step up and assist. Also this is a reflection of our positive group environment, being an open and encouraging place where members feel that they can ask other members questions – sometimes that is not as easy as it sounds.

What could have been improved?

- Going forward our group has learnt from this experience that it's better to start earlier, especially with large projects like this assignment as it is easy to underestimate the amount of work and time it takes to complete tasks. Also we had a small miscommunication and learnt that having clear communications and paying close attention to details around task allocation, is imperative in teams to avoid duplication of work.

At least one thing that was surprising?

- As a group we were really all quite surprised that we all worked so well together, which as we know is not always the case in team environments. Each member displayed ownership and committed to completing their team/tasks responsibilities.

At least one thing that you have learnt about groups?

- Our biggest learnt lesson from this group experience would have to come down to clear communications and documentation of those communications, is really the key to ensuring members are aware of who is doing what, when its due and what is left to be completed. Having that transparency and accountability via communication ensured we actively completed tasks. We believe in our team we managed this successfully but in doing so we have learnt the significant importance of communication, as our team would not have been as successful as it has been, if we weren't effectively communicating.