

Assignment Brief: Self-Reflection on Whole Subject

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Submission type: Written submission. One document is to be submitted per person.

Length, Weighting and Due Date: 12% of the overall subject grade, which is broken down as:

Grades Available (of overall subject)	Length	Task	Due Date
2%	300-600 words	(A) Week 8 self-reflection	Sun 30 Apr 23:59
2%	300-600 words	(B) Week 11 self-reflection	Fri 19 May 23:59
8%	1000-2000 words	(C) Whole subject self-reflection	Thu 22 Jun 23:59

Submission instructions: Upload a pdf to, or type your reflection directly into, the assignment on Canvas.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

Time spent on self-reflection is an opportunity for you as an individual to:

- Reflect critically on your experiences during this subject and more generally.
- Uncover deeper reasoning and understanding that would be left uncovered by a quick and cursory reflection.
- Leverage the insights above to adapt or reinforce your goals and behaviours for the future.

As every individual has different experiences and a different style of personal development, overly prescriptive self-reflection topics can prohibit the insightfulness of the reflection. The converse of this is that a fully unguided self-reflection can miss important topics. The task description below prescribes topics for your self-reflection, and within each topic there is freedom for you to choose the example(s) on which to reflect.

The meaning of “reflect” as it is used in the task description is to express:

- Your **thoughts, personal insights, and/or feelings** with respect to the topic on which you are reflecting.
- **External and internal factors** influencing those thoughts, personal insights and/or feelings.
- Critical discussion about the **future** with respect to the previous two points.

TASK (A) DESCRIPTION – WEEK 8 SELF-REFLECTION (300-600 words)

At this time of the semester, you have completed the preliminary report and received feedback from one of your peers. Complete a written self-reflection the following topic:

1. Reflect on meeting your responsibilities as an engineer to deliver **rigorous** engineering work.
 - For example, your reflection could touch upon one of more of the following aspects:
 - Your responsibility towards the **rigour** of other engineers (be that a peer or a supervisor).
 - Your expectations of the contributions of other engineers (be that a peer or a supervisor) towards your **rigour**.
 - How to manage and mitigate trade-offs between time and **rigour**.
 - How social norms you have experienced may help or hinder anything you expressed for the previous points.

CRITERIA GUIDANCE:

Consider carefully the three dot points in the purpose statement that give the meaning of “reflect” for this task:

- Expressing thoughts, personal insights, and/or feelings generally comes naturally.
- Expressing **the external and internal factors** influencing those thoughts, personal insights and/or feelings is generally **more challenging**. It takes time and critical self-reflection to uncover and provide deeper insight into the reasons.
- Stating surface-level ideas for the future is generally easy, for example: “Next time I will listen more carefully to the suggestions of my teammates. In contrast, **critical discussion** for the future is generally **more challenging**. Aim to reflect on how future situations are expected to differ but still be related to the experiences of this subject, and hence why suggestions for the future are **actually** likely to make a difference to your personal status quo (it is human nature that “**(old) habits die hard**”).
 - For example:
 - Perhaps you have multiple previous experiences of the same negative teamwork situation and each time you say to yourself that you will behave differently next time, and each time the same negative teamwork situation still happens again.
 - And perhaps you had that same negative teamwork experience in this subject and this time you are 100% certain that you will **actually** change your behaviour for next time.
 - To achieve a meaningful self-reflection, you need to explain what is different this time and what differences you **realistically** expect for that particular teamwork situation.

To assist with deeper reflection at the end of the subject, keep some **notes-to-self during semester**, for example:

- When a situation raises strongly feelings, take time later in the day to note down the details.
- Once a week take 30 minutes to note down your thoughts on one or more topics.
- Start an occasional discussion with your team members, friends, and/or colleagues from elsewhere about the general topics of teamwork, professional skills, hacking, and other topics relevant for defining yourself as an engineer.

Marking rubric: self-reflection

Criteria	Weighting	Aspects assessed by each criterion:
Reflection quality	70%	The degree to which the reflection is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genuine • Critical • Delves deeper than the surface-level.
Future discussion	30%	The degree to which future discussion is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic about expectations of the future. • Considers internal and external factors that influence the future.

Note: Points may be deducted if the self-reflection for poor clarity of expression.

Note: Task (A) and (B) are experience-based activities as opportunities for practice and feedback, a complete and sensible submission receives full marks for those two tasks. Task (C) is marked according to this rubric.