

Managing Enterprise in the 21st Century

BMSK4006 Tutor Diola Bijlhout

Ashakur Rahman 1706495

Introduction

The aim of this reflective paper is to evaluate and reflect on the learning journey I have undertaken during the team business plan interactions. This reflective report will also reflect on the development of my personal skills, to evaluate and analyse my experience through the learning process. The purpose of this reflection is to include my thoughts and reactions to the experience. Of working in a team and how we worked together while undertaking the project. This report includes my reactions and thoughts to the experience. In this report I have described how I tackled issues working with a team of six and interpreted my role as a team member. What I have learnt being a team member and how I approached challenges. This report has been prepared as a reflective work of my group's business plan.

Description of Experience

In term one we had to conduct a business plan, I was chosen to work in a team of six to prepare a business plan. I wanted to be with my own team but administration allocated teams randomly. This was new to me, I had no idea how to produce a business plan after the team was allocated. I called everyone in our team for a meeting to get to know each other and to discuss our task in hand. We created a WhatsApp group so we can communicate our ideas and thoughts more efficiently. I persuaded them to follow my arrangement of doing a business plan on PCO Cars. I also put forward my thoughts and ideas. After careful planning, thorough team discussion, and having constructive arguments I

made them agree on the plan. We identified our strengths within the business plan and allocated task and roles accordingly to each team member, as I started to know my team members I felt enthusiastic being in this team.

Being students from different backgrounds and age groups would naturally raised some problems for us. This is because as time went I became more confident as I learned different aspect of running your own business. we had to prepare our business plan on power point. Before this I was not very good with excel power point, I did gain my confidence as I was using it more. I have learned to appreciate knowledge of running your own business and to being self employed.

I have always been a critical thinker, throughout my learning I have greatly sharpened my this skill, I have learned to ask why on many every levels . Our business plan was about PCO cars and we would import car them from japan and rent them in the UK minicab drivers. On my part I had to do a lot of research HR , market strategy on swot and pestle analyse and I had to find how much it cost to import each car to the UK. My team was great and we all contributed to the PowerPoint, therefore our communication skills improved. As a team we worked really well together initially as time went some members of our group were not contributing however the rest of us managed to pull it all together, and complete our business plan.

Feelings

In the first term we had to do a group presentation of our business plan In front of the entire class our tutor and a external examiner . I felt really stressed out as I have never presented in front of this many people before, therefore presentation was really new to me. I had to study on how my posture, behaviour and attitude should be while presenting as I have learnt this can affect what your final grade is. When the time came to do the

presentation I felt very nervous because we were the first group to go up. However, I felt as if I was prepared to present in front of everyone and I learnt how my posture and behaviour towards the audience should be.

I am normally a shy person and not really good at speaking publicly. When I first spoke in the presentation I felt intimidated by the audience however as the presentation continued I felt at ease and this grew my confidence towards the end. By presenting I believe it grew my confidence to do more public speaking as I realised that feeling nervous won't help me when I am presenting.

In the process of creating our presentation some of my group members were lacking in the part they had to do and were not pulling their weight which made me frustrated. This is because we had to do a lot of research and therefore I distributed this research to my group members. As some members of the group were not completing the task, it gave me more work to do and got me really stressed out, as I knew the presentation had to be completed within a certain deadline. This meant that I had to complete other team members' research as well as mine therefore got me stressed out. Overall this experience has helped me a lot because I can engage with other students and be able to publicly speak confidently.

Evaluation

Overall, the group presentation was challenging for me yet very fascinating as I was able to experience how to prepare a business plan which involved a lot of research like financial forecasting, marketing and planning, I had to research market strategies. All this was a valuable experience for me I was happy and excited doing this. This is because in the future one day I want to open up my own business either with as a member of a group or by myself I have the sufficient funds at the time and if I find committed reliable team members that are willing to invest in my business idea. I always wanted to be a business man since I was a child and I believe by carrying out a marketing campaign it will enable me to follow specific steps at specific times and stay within my budget which will enable my business to become successful.

The downside was that we initially we had six people in our group but two person among them did not want to contribute . I found it hard to communicate to them and they would not answer their phone or email this made me very distressed. I was losing hope that our business plan would ever come together . I had to do double the work because they were not pulling their weight.

I was feeling anxious due to some of my team members lacking to do their work . I believe that if your are in a team then everyone has to contribute. I think it may be better to give each indivual specific task therefore this way no one can shy away from their responsibility. My team was not functioning well the remaining four of us had to do the work , however we did manage to pull through. This process has enabled me to develop on how well I work under pressure. This is because I identified a problem which was when my team members were not pulling their weight to complete the assigned research tasks and I had to figure out a solution fast due to the deadline approaching. This experience has also enabled me to deal with difficult people and how to overcome issues like this which will help me in the future as I will inevitably meet difficult people in the real wold within my business interactions therefore this experience will guide me on how to act when a problem like this occurs. I also gained other relevant skills that will help me on a daily basis in the future such as communication, negotiation and problem solving skills.

Analysis

The modules that I have studied has given me confidence. I learned how to apply theory into practice. I believe I was successful in interpreting this and formulate the strategic plan, mission and vision of the company that we were working on. The knowledge from the lectures helped me how to search different sources for information which was very useful it helped my strategy formulation. I now have a clear understanding of preparing a business plan. Having completed this project, has given me satisfaction as I have learned how to get my point across in discussion my arguments have become much better with facts and examples. I know that I have to back up my research with evidence such real life examples and theories which will enable me to receive a high mark on my report.

The project taught how to be a good team member and what is required and to cooperative with on another for a shared goal. I feel now that my researching skills has improved. I can understand a topic better and how to use a variety of sources which will help me in my career in the future. My I.T skills have also improved. A business plan is viable because it helps you understand and to apply critical thinking and use the theory into practice. I also believe by researching on different topics; i have become more open minded and believe that it has developed the skills I attain and therefore will open doors for me in the future. As one of my family members are starting up their own business and I have seen a lot of the theories they are lacking in, I now believe I will be able to help them and make them understand the different concepts that they are not including at the moment to run a successful business. Overall, this experience gave me an insight on how to properly develop a successful business plan and how to execute it.

Conclusion

Looking back I feel the module has really benefited me and help me I plan out my future career. Since I was a child, I have always wanted to be a business man and become self-employed and I feel that what I learned in this module, will not only help me however I will also be able to support other people, who want to become an owner of a business one day. As I want to become a business man one day I feel like completing a plan which consisted of a SWOT, PESTEL, marketing strategies, I feel as if I am able to identify the full threats within the market I want to enter and see how the market is constantly changing and evolving. I know that technological factors can either help or put me out of business. For example, if there is new advanced machinery in the market I know that this will help my business to be more efficient productive and competitive within the industry as I will be able to produce output cheaper per unit.

In addition to this, I know that in order to develop on my confidence I need to set myself challenging targets and need to practice on my poster when I am presenting however completing the module I feel a sense of achievement.

