

Assignment: The Placement report

Work Placement

HPHE7004

AHAC7007

- The project report, used to assess your engagement, requires you to understand the objectives of the organisation or practitioner you are with and to understand the methods they use to achieve those objectives.
- You should seek to recover copies of any public statement of these objectives, undertake a documentation search within the public domain and support your observations with wider reading.
- Should your project involve researching the documents or maps/illustrations held by the organisation, practitioner or in private hands, then you must seek agreement and permissions for their use.
- In the course of your work you should also look to identify the kind of issues and problems encountered in the achievement of the objectives, as well as identifying the successful parts of the operation.

Questions you may wish to address

where and how do you fit
into the working
environment ?

what is the work carried
out by the
organisation/practitioner?

Are their stated aims the
same as their 'hidden'
agenda?

your skills levels before
the experience

your skills levels after the
experience

What sort of experience did you have?

Have you
contributed to the
main work of the
organisation?

How have they
supported you?

How does the
work environment
affect
productivity?

What you need to include

- Introduce yourself i.e. purpose and context of your experience and learning
- What are your aims/objectives
- Introduce your topic, where you have been and engaged in
- Their aims objectives
- Did they meet your expectations/what you think you expected from them
- What did you learn/what did you think you would learn
- REFLECT on or evaluate your experience

Reflexivity

- your awareness of and analytic focus on your relationship to the field of study, in this case your work placement
- this is about taking in what you have learned and not just reflecting (evaluating) BUT making the learning active to inform you as the researcher to better understand them, their relationship to their community and your relationship to them

Look at their mission statements

What do they claim to do (and what was your role within it?)

Who funds them (does this constrain them in the activity they want to do?)

What do they actually do (do they want to do more, can they do more?)

Is there a mismatch at all?, e.g.

Insert organisation name.....here!

Expectation/claim: they are keepers of the nations heritage, guardians of material remains of the past, interpreters of past, conservators of the past, to promote and look after places or things of historic beauty or value permanently for the benefit of the nation.....

Reality: they are all businesses, run with limited funding, staffed by volunteers, tensions between visitor experience and conservation....

Report should be...

- Well structured (contents page), well presented and well written, correctly referenced using correct conventions (Harvard) illustrations where appropriate
- Context of organisation within the industry, awareness of funding pressures, politics and solutions

Final thoughts



Do not be merely descriptive



Note the difference between criticism
and critique