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Academic Skills- academic writing skills, note-taking skills, finding information/research skills.

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INTRODUCTION

This course "Academic Skills Development" will teach students the necessary strategies and techniques to excel in academics. This course we've explored the various academic abilities which range from research and writing as well as critical and reflective thinking. The primary objective is to increase students' capacity to utilize the academic tools efficaciously and express their ideas with a consistent style when writing. We also aim to cultivate a critical thinking ability crucial to success in academics (Akella and others. 2021).

For this report to be written reflectively I'll employ this method known as The Gibbs Reflective Cycle, a widely used model to organize reflection. It's comprised of six parts that consist of the following: descriptions of feelings, Evaluation and Feelings and then Analysing Conclusion, and finally an Action Plan.

Academic skill 1: Academic writing skill

Writing academically is a vital ability to energetically communicate thoughts and arguments within the academic environment. The process requires adhering to certain standards, like clarity as well as consistency, along with the using evidence as the foundation for assertions (Rucinski 2020).

Throughout the course we participated in writing assignments of various kinds. These comprised essay assignments, a review of books and bibliographies that included annotations. The students had ample opportunity to examine the structure of arguments and integrate data from different sources, while keeping to academic norms in writing (Austin and co. 2010).

In reflecting about my experiences in class, I discovered that employing the writing techniques I was taught in class substantially increased the clarity and coherence of my writing for academic purposes. When I carefully planned and organized my essay, I was able present complex concepts better definitely and also present my arguments in an engaging manner (Tang, 2023).

The result on my writing abilities is profound. I have not only received favourable feedback about the quality and quality of my writing from teachers as well, but I've seen an improvement in my performance. In addition, I am more comfortable when writing projects across various disciplines being confident that I have the essential talent to be a success.

Academic skill 2: Note-taking skills

Note-taking is an important ability in efficaciously taking notes and synthesizing data from readings, lectures as well as other sources of academic information. Note-taking involves recording and selecting important ideas, points as well as concepts to be later reviewed and study (Contreras et al., 2020).

In the course, we took part in note-taking classes in which we were taught various methods that allow for effective notetaking including the cornell method, highlighting, diagram, linear notes, tabular notes and mind mapping. In addition, we applied these strategies during lectures and discussion groups.

Utilizing these strategies for note taking has completely changed my way of learning academically. Through active engagement with the subject matter and synthesising the key ideas in real-time I noticed that my retention and comprehension of course material was significantly improved. Additionally, reviewing and revisiting my notes on a regular basis enabled me to strengthen my understanding of difficult subjects and pinpoint the areas in need of clarification (Golumbic et al., 2022).

The effect from enhancing my note-taking abilities isn't limited to the classroom. I am now better equipped to meet the demands of college coursework because I can efficaciously collect and arrange the information I gather from different sources. In addition, these enhanced notes have helped me improve my studying habits, which allows me to take on tests and assignments with more certainty and confidence.

Academic skill 3: Finding information/research skills

The ability to locate facts and develop research skills are crucial for students to assure that students are successful in their studies. This includes the capacity to find, analyse the relevance of sources and then synthesize them in support of scholarly inquiry and arguments.

In the course that we took part in a variety of initiatives designed to increase our research skills which included workshop sessions in libraries, databases tutorials as well as hands-on activities on the retrieval of information. These exercises gave us practical experience of together databases for academic research and refining queries for search while critically considering the validity and reliability of information sources (Kilag et al., 2023).

Retrospectively, I am pondering my progress in this field I've been actively applying the strategies I taught in class to my research and academic endeavours. In the event that I had to conduct research to complete assignments, I used advanced techniques for searching to locate the peer-reviewed journals, books and trustworthy websites related to the subject I was researching. In addition, I scrutinized the reliability and validity of the sources I consulted, making sure that only trustworthy and reliable facts shaped my reasoning (Mulryan-Kyne, 2021).

In the beginning, I've seen an increase in the quality and profundity of my research. With definitely locating and incorporating top-quality sources in my work I've developed argumentations that are more complex and add strong evidence to justify my assertions. In turn, my scores have risen, indicating the standard of my writing that is based on research.

Additionally, developing my research abilities have given me the certainty and self-confidence when it comes to academic pursuits. I am now equipped with the expertise and skills required to navigate the vast field of academic literature as well as engage in an academic conversation that is meaningful. My new-found confidence hasn't allowed me to take on difficult research tasks with passion but also fuelled my passion and curiosity to learn (Ryder and Downs, 2022).

In addition to the immediate benefits of academics the development of solid research abilities gave me useful talent for a range of skilful settings. In today's increasingly digitally-driven society and a need to search for the right information, analyse it, and then use important information is vital across a range of industries and fields. When it comes to conducting market

research, analysing the data or writing compelling arguments skills of research abilities acquired through this class will serve as the base for academic as well as job achievement.

In conclusion my experience in this class was instrumental in improving my academic skills especially within the fields of academic writing, note-taking as well as research. By engaging in a variety of activities and exercises that reflect on my learning I've gained a comprehension of these essential skills and their importance for both academic and well-qualified situations. As I move forward, I'm determined to continue my pursuit to develop my academic abilities together the information and techniques I learned in this course to be successful in the future.

Conclusion

In a summation, this reflection review has examined the growth of essential academic knowledge via the program "Academic Skills Development." We looked at three fundamental abilities including academic writing skills, note-taking skills and research knowledge. By participating in different types of activities as well as reflective exercises I've seen improvement in all three areas and evidence is provided by the class and my personal reflections.

In the end, this course has significantly improved my academic skills improvement by providing methods, strategies, and sources to be successful in my academic endeavours. Through structured learning as well as practical exercises that I've honed my ability to convey concepts energetically via writing and note-taking, as well as synthesize data through notes and conducting rigorous study to benefit support the process of the process of scholarly inquiry. Additionally, the course helped me receive a better comprehension of the value of self-reflection, critical thinking and continual learning within professional and academic competent situations.

Looking back on my experience in the past, I am grateful for the valuable knowledge and advice that this course has provided me. It not only has equipped me with vital academic abilities but also instilled the self-confidence and the ability to navigate the difficult waters of university. Additionally, the learning collaborative environment, as well as the supportive feedback from teachers and fellow students have helped to foster the spirit of learning and growth, encouraging me to aim for the highest across all areas of my educational journey.

In the future I realize that there are areas to boost and grow. Even though the course laid the foundations to academic success, continuous exercise and refinement is essential in order to improve my talent. Particularly, I want to improve my ability to think critically as well as rise my

writing skills and increase my knowledge of research through ongoing involvement with literature from the academic world and exploring interdisciplinary research. In addition, I recognize the value of getting feedback from my mentors and fellow students in addition to using resources like academic centres and writing support services in order to improve the quality of my educational knowledge.

In conclusion I would say that the course "Academic Skills" has provided a transformational learning experience that has provided me with the skills, knowledge skills and confidence needed to succeed at my academic endeavours. In enhancing my writing skills, notes-taking skills and my research skills, I'm more prepared to face the challenges that come with university and achieve my academic as well as competent ambitions with passion and determination. In the future, I'm dedicated to living a pursuit of learning, constantly looking for opportunities to grow and advancement, as well as providing meaningful service to the academic world and beyond.

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