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MANAGING ENTERPRISE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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Task: Students will produce a reflective report of 2,000 words, which demonstrates an awareness of the learning journey they have undertaken during the team business plan interactions. They should also reflect upon the development of their personal skill set for self-employment.

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INTRODUCTION

This report is about my experience while I was studying managing enterprise in 21st century module, about my experience working in a group , but not only in working in a group in order to achieve our purpose ,but being literally part of a solid group, with a great business plan.

I will also write about our presentation, how did it go, my performance , my thoughts and my feelings after.

I will use KOLB S learning cycle in order to write this report, reflect on my skills and my growth.

THE EXPERIENCE

This module was the biggest challenge for me. I did not know too much about the other modules either , but at last I could understand things easier. This module in particular, make you think at a higher level, gives you such a wide and vast scale , I did not know that s even possible, and the lecturer had a great gift to take this out of us!

First of all this module thought me what entrepreneurship means: the ability to create and build something from practically nothing. it is initiating, doing, achieving and building an enterprise or organization , rather than just watching , analysing, or describing one . It is the knack of sensing an opportunity where others see chaos, contradiction and confusion. It is the ability to build a founding team to complement your own skills and talents. It is to know how to find , marshal and control resources and to make sure that you don t run out of money when you need the most. Finally, it is the willingness to take calculated risks , both personal and financial, and then to do everything possible to get the odds in your favour. (TIMMONS, 1989)

I also learned that to become a successful entrepreneur you must have or develop a set of skills , and even if your business won t grow overnight there are some characteristics typical in the majority of business people.

One of the most important, in my opinion, is not to take a “no” for an

answer. A successful entrepreneur will always be prepared to dust themselves down and find different ways to hit the summit. The fear of failure is also something that stops people from becoming successful.

Successful business people find failure as a positive experience, something to learn from and in the future to do better. All entrepreneurs make mistakes on their way to success, but what's the most important is the fact that they take the responsibility for their failure and move on quickly (BRITISH LIBRARY,2019)

Learning from the best is another secret to success, that's why in order to succeed, we need to find a mentor, a person whom we admire and learn from them.

Time management is another important skill that a successful entrepreneur has. If the time is not managed well, there is no way that the goals will be reached, even if it's about work, or personal life. We all have the same amount of time, the only difference is how we use it.

We have to find ways and have a clear mind to allocate most of our time and effort, in order to achieve our goals, that's why it's very important to know what we want and stick to it. (ADAMS,2019)

A successful entrepreneur has also research skills. Research is the key element for success. The entrepreneur must know how to search in the market and establish the nature of their business customers' needs. When you start doing a business plan, you need to research the market, your competitors and the problems that can arise.

(JOHANSON,2019)

I learned that as a successful entrepreneur, you will have to work closely with people as well and create great relationships with your team, customers, suppliers, investors and so on, will help you and your business grow. That's why you must have good communication skills. Having a conversation is the basic form of communication. A friendly conversation with your employees or business partner can build trust and reduce the risk of conflicts or misunderstandings.

Body language is a different way of communication and very powerful, because it has to add a plus to your words and credibility. That's why a good posture and a look in the eyes can be a plus when you speak, plus shows a lot of confidence and you will win the other person's attention, trust and respect.

As an entrepreneur, team leadership is also an essential skill, especially when the work is done by a team and their members. A good

leadership must have the ability to have a vision of the future and to know how to motivate his members so they will want to finish their job in the best way possible. You will need to be creative and use this skill not only when comes about problem solving that can arise in a team, but also in encouraging other members to be more creative when they are doing their job.(SUTEVSKI ,2019)

A fer I learned about all these skills, the time to really put in to practice came. We had to form a group and together to create a business plan.

REFLECTIVE OBSERVATION

Maya was the first person with I really felt connected even from the beginning of the term and it felt natural to form a group with her. But a group of tow people was not enough , plus we both were aware that we don t have all the skills to complete the task, we need someone creative as well and with a bit more confidence then us. So we talked and we agree to ask Liam to join our group, and we were more then pleased when he accepted, but some how he chose Marcia to be part of our group as well. Even if we had no idea why he did that, we had to agree because we need him.

Me , Maya and Liam seemed to connect very well, we helped each other , we meet, we came with ideas and in the end we agree to make a business plan for a ECO CLEANING COMPANY .

I could not see Marcia contribution anywhere and at one point I realised that I was frustrated.

I was frustrated, Maya was overwhelmed about the high volume of work that we had to do , Liam was always busy with his family, and the things started not to look so good.

.But I realised like all of us, Marcia can have her own life as well, her insecurities and so on , and this made me to be a little more understanding regarding her contribution and involvement in the project. We did not have any major conflicts because all put above then anything the result of the presentation, and we all focused on that. When we were struggling to the best structure for the business plan(even if we had the idea and everything related to it, we could not find a simple and concrete structure), Marcia came up with the idea and from there everything flow in the right way!

Liam was kind of our team leader, and we were all pleased about it, even if we did not talk about this, and somehow was a bit funny because I told Maya in the beginning that he will be good for our group, which made me, I believe a person view of the future, a person who knows her pluses and minuses and a person who is ready to adapt to any situation, in order to achieve her goals.

In the end our plan was better and more credible and practical than we even expected! We could have really started a business like in real life, so overall the experience was more than helpful!

The day before the presentation I was so excited and anxious. I knew my slides, I knew everything. I was confident and pleased, because I really believed in our plan, and everything was real. I was pleased about myself that I got in this point, that my ideas and research were taking in consideration, and somehow that I could keep the group together, because somehow I was the one who solved everything before even a conflict can arise, I could anticipate. I do not know if it's only me who think this way, but it does not matter anyway long as we reached our goal.

But in the day of the presentation, I panicked! I was the first one that I had to speak and I started to stutter. While I was talking (in that stutter way) I was feeling so embarrassed, I could actually feel my face burning and there was no way for me to stop the stutters, and I could see people's faces, struggling to understand what I was saying! I felt that I had to evaporate myself in that instant, I felt that I disappointed my group and myself!

The presentation was good after all, because Liam took his leadership role and he did a very good job, and after the presentation all were very supportive with me and to be honest, not even today I'm not sure if my presentation was so awful as I felt it was. I could have walked away, give up, not going with my slides but I did not, and no matter the way I felt, I completed my task and my role.

CONCEPTUALISATION

Now I believe that I have the ability and skills to become an entrepreneur, things about I was not even thinking before this module. I think that I can solve problems and manage conflict, and I was not aware of. I think that I can face any situation and still, I will keep my focus on my goal. I discovered that I do not see failure as a failure, but

as a lesson and something that I learned from

ACTIVE EXTERMINATION

“ Once we believe in ourselves , we can risk curiosity, wonder , spontaneous delight or any experience that reveals the human spirit “ (CUMMINGS, 2019)

So as long as I believe in myself, everything is possible, as long as you do the work as well

All these skills that I discovered I have, will help me to improve my relationship with my colleagues , my family also , and in the future they will lead me to a better job.

I understood that in order to achieve something, you must have a plan and stick to it. You must write it down, in every single detail.

You have to decide what you want to do, what you will need to do , what kind of resources will you need , you need to see the result like it s already happening and to set a target with the time when you will accomplish your goal

I already created a plan for my next year goal. I want to grow in my work place. In order to do that, I will need the certificate for skills in the work place. That s why I joined the University, and no matter how challenging it is, I will do all the work and I will put all the effort in order to complete the year.

CONCLUSION

Everything in this life was made to be learned. What matter is the dedication , the belief and the work you put in, the willingness to grow and become better, the best version of yourself.

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