

BUSINESS 482: Strategic Management and Consulting

Experience: Semester-long strategic consulting as a team with a local organization.

Reflection Assignments:

Week 4:

“It’s a rare moment when we take a break from the tribulations of the daily rat race to reflect on assumptions and values that we casually accept as gospel.” – Graydon Carter

“Begin challenging your assumptions. Your assumptions are the windows on the world. Scrub them off every once in a while or the light won’t come in.” – Alan Alda

We all make assumptions and hold biases. It’s necessary to living our lives. But it is important to be aware of these in order for them not to get in your way.

- What assumptions and biases do you bring to this project? How are these similar to (and different from) your teammates’ and client’s perspectives? Discuss.
- You may add other reflection to this if you wish. Guideline for length: 1-2 pages single-spaced.

Week 6, after doing a feedback exercise with their team:

Refer back to “Delivering Coaching Feedback” from the September 9th reading assignment. Do Exercise 5-7 with your team. Provide a written description of this activity, particularly steps three, six, and seven.

- Step 3: Ask team members to answer two questions:
 - “I see myself as a valuable member of the team because _____”.
 - “I believe I could be more valuable to the team if I _____”.
- Step 6: How close were your own self-perceptions to others’ perceptions of you? What kinds of traits, behaviors and attitudes were cited as being of greatest value? Were there any common theses?
- Step 7: Everyone decides which feedback items they want to address (no more than two).

You may add other reflections to this if you wish. Guideline for length: 1-2 pages

Week 7 (in class exercise – group reflection):

- Draw your team as a boat. Explain to the class.

Week 9:

- Identify your three most significant concerns about this project. Discuss.

Week 11 (in class exercise – group reflection):

- Repeat boat exercise – students choose what they want to be – treasure hunt, garden, breakfast, or an airport. Explain to the class.

End of Term:

- How did the process your team used for this project affect the outcomes? How did you contribute to and detract from the final outcomes? Discuss.

This reflection should help me understand what you learned from the consulting project and process. You may add other reflections to this as you wish. Guideline for length: 2-3 pages, single-spaced.