Focusing on both Software Development and Communication

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Introducing Learning by Writing

• Introducing Communication in Engineering via Writing to Learn

• The Syllabus
  • Writing Component – 35%
    • This is graded
  • Every Class Writing
    • This is low stakes
    • Participation points
    • Receives Candies 😊
Every Class Writing to Learn

- User Stories
  - They write a sentence or 2
- First class
- Ex. What is your first step in celebrating your friend's birthday?
  - Everybody is given an index card
  - They have 5 mins to think and write no more than two sentences
  - Everyone shares
  - We identify the best sentences that were formed
Every Class Writing to Learn – User Stories

User Stories – They write five sentences

Ex. Develop a weather app for grandma?

They now use these words to answer the user story
They have 5 mins to think and write no more than two sentences
Everyone shares
We identify the best sentences that were formed
Assignment to Writing to Learn – The Framework

• Students write a paper on an ensemble framework

• They pick a framework and write with examples.
Assignment to Writing to Learn – The Framework – 1st assignment

• The first major communication assignment was assigned in the second quarter.
• This is 15% of the 35% that they have in the communication group.
• **They pick a framework and write with examples.**
• Each student had to choose any one process like extreme programming (XP) team, feature driven development (FDD) team, Lean Team, Kanban Team, and Scrum Team.
The second major communications assignment was a take-home midterm that was based on Agile manifests.

This assignment was 10% of their 35% of the communication block.

This was assigned to them between the second and the third quarters.

The instructions

- Read the given journal article [7]
- Apply the agile manifests to your interest/hobby
- Detail how you would implement agile manifests to teach or implement the interest/hobby in question.
- Submit an article not less than five pages in the IEEE format uploaded here.
- Please submit as a word document so I can allow double-blind review
Assignment to Writing to Learn – Third Assignment

• The third assignment was assigned in the third quarter of the semester.
• It is called the lighting talk assignment.
• This was 5% of the 35%
• Prepare 15 slides and had to be timed such that the presentation is completed in five minutes.
  • The slides had to scroll automatically, and they did not have any control over the slides.
  • They had to talk as each of the slides appear.
  • The topic was their choice from a list of agile vocabularies given to them.
Assignment to Writing to Learn – Fourth Assignment

• The final major assignment was assigned to them in the fourth quarter.
• This was fulfilling their partial requirement of the final exam.
• The weightage on this assignment was 5% of the 35% communication block.
• Write two pages about a topic from the list of topics given.
• Make a presentation.
• The instructions
  • Choose a topic, make a presentation and write about two pages on any topic that you choose from below.
  • Make citations and references
Conclusion and Future Work

• Overall the students appreciated the teaching pattern of using multi-mode approaches.

• In the future, to help students better write a co-teaching class or a schedule time with the writing center would help students to learn to write.

• Students can be asked to present their work at the student conference

• This might help them increase their self-confidence.
References


Thank you