Individual AEP Assignment
Written report due: Friday of Week 11 at 8:00 pm.
Check the AEP website and your course submission system (e.g. Coursys) for the exact due date this semester. You are highly recommended to submit before the deadline

General Description

This assignment is part of the course assignments and part of the “Academic Enhancement Program” whose participants are students in core Computing Science or Engineering courses. This program aims to guide and help students to better succeed in their university studies and get useful exposure and awareness and/or initial training in diverse areas, including but not limited to learning skills and time management skills.

At the same time, this exercise should reinforce students in training in summarizing and reflecting about presentations, talks and/or reading of academic publications. This assignment will not be marked based on the English writing skills but rather just on the concepts students write about.

This exercise will be given assignment points within the course, as the course instructor will indicate. If a student is participating in more than one course where AEP activities take place he or she should do one activity per course.

This exercise includes three (3) main components:

1. To choose (to later attend) at least one academic skills/learning workshop offered by the SFU Student Learning Commons (SLC) or the SFU Health and Counselling Services Centre (HCS) or possibly others as described below, during the current semester. These workshops are free; however notice that they may require registration. Links to these departments are provided in the AEP website (“AEP readings and helpful links”).

   OR

2. To choose an article, book chapter or video related to academic skills/learning and possibly combined with the course topics. You will find possible materials in the AEP website: follow the link “AEP readings and helpful links”. If you would like to propose other material, consult with the AEP coordinator for pre-approval. (See more details below).

3. To write a report about the workshop, reading or video that you chose. Only report and write what you feel comfortable writing and sharing.

4. To submit your report (via your course submission system (e.g. Coursys))
Choosing the workshop or material to write about:

1. Explore the websites of the mentioned departments; explore the readings and videos available. The topic may be about learning strategies, exam preparation, time management, health management and or in general improving some aspect of your university and learning experience. Other relevant workshops or materials may be chosen, please consult if you are in doubt. Don’t forget to register to the workshops as needed.

2. Please contact the program coordinator: Diana Cukierman (diana@cs.sfu.ca) to have your workshop or reading “pre-approved” in the following cases:
   a) if you would like to attend a workshop not among the ones offered by the SLC or HCS or
   b) if you are not sure whether the workshop is appropriate for this exercise or
   c) if you would like to write about a reading or video that you found (not linked from this website) or
   d) the workshop you would like to attend is offered later than the assignment deadline

3. Clearly, you can attend any and as many workshops as you want and read and watch as many readings and videos as you would be interested. The pre-approval refers to the topic being adequate for this assignment report.

4. You may want to choose more than one workshop just in case the workshop you select is not what you expected and it is difficult for you to summarize about it. (This is an advice given by some students who did this exercise in previous semesters).

5. You may want to consider analogous workshops or talks offered by other departments (even possibly at other universities or academic institutions).

Reporting about the workshop or materials you chose

1. Your report should be at least three paragraphs and at most one page long, regular spacing, font 11, not hand written.

2. Your report should include a clear reference of the workshop (name, department which offered it, date, facilitators, etc) or a clear reference to the article, reading or video that you chose including the title, author and publication details. If it is available on line include also the url.

3. Start with a brief introduction: describe why you chose the workshop (or reading or video), the importance of the topic for you and/or in general, etc. If you have participated in a previous AEP activity explain what that was and how this present activity connects to the previous one/s.

4. Include a brief description of what the workshop or material consisted of, what the facilitator/s did, what participants did, what the goals of the workshop were.

5. Include your reflections and opinion about how this type of workshops help students, how it helped you, and how you think it can help those students taking this course or similar. Your reflection could also include ways you see to further continue exploring the issues dealt in the workshop.

If you have any questions please contact the AEP program coordinator, Diana Cukierman (diana@cs.sfu.ca)