

Dear Learners,

Greetings!

Happy to know, you are busy learning. Many are actively participating in the course and want to know how to submit the activities given in the course. Some activities are encouraged to post it on the discussion forum to enable peer learning.

I also encourage every one of you to have a course journal. I would like to highlight the purpose and expectations of Course Journal.

“Let me first start by defining what is a Course Journal. It is a “Learner Diary” where students regularly reflect on what they have learnt in the classes and the way that activities in class have helped them to learn.”

A course journal is both a process and record.

1. The first step in this process of creating a course journal is to select an appropriate document editor. This could be **Word, LibreOffice, OneNote, Notepad** or any other regular editor that you are familiar with.
2. The next step is to create an outline structure. This outline structure is what you take while writing the journal. The structure could be temporal, that means it could be week-wise or Day-wise or it could be a thematic approach like Modules, Topics or it could even be based on the way you navigate the course content.
3. The third important step that you should remember is that every entry in your journal should have a date and time. The entries in itself need not be limited to just words, you can add pictures, embed videos, it depends on the capabilities of the editor.

Now, about the actual record or what you write in your journal.

You must write answers to reflection spot questions that we asked. In addition, you can write the answers for the reflective questions asked to yourself.

Here are some examples of good reflective questions to ask.

- What are the central or crucial points the instructor is trying to make?
- What have I learned from this content or by following a specific discussion?
- What have I been asked to think about that hadn't occurred to me this way before?
- How does an activity or explanation help me to explain things that I have not previously understood?
- Does this understanding contradict the previous knowledge?
- What are these implications of these ideas?
- Can I think of some examples from my own experience?

So, when you look back at to the journal at the end of your course, you will find that, it not only records your experiences, but there is a clear path showing the direction of your growth during this course.

EXPECTATIONS

Although the reflective journal entries are not expected to be polished writing, they should be coherent and well thought-out. The journal entries, with permission from you, may be shared with the course instructors and possibly with peers and cooperating teachers.

In the second to last week in the course you would have completed eight journal entries, a final read-back entry for the whole course.

At the end of every week, share your course journal with your peers through discussion forum. Use the heading **Course Journal -Week No #**

Happy Learning!

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