

Creative and Critical Thinking Module Week 1

I was extremely nervous about going back to the MSc this morning as I had missed last week's lesson and was questioning whether or not to go back. I am so thankful I returned to college. The subject matter was really interesting and thoroughly enjoyable. The module was introduced by Roisin Donnelly and Jen Harvey and the combinations of group work and class tasks got everyone involved and interacting with each other. Combining the module with the MA and MSc gave us the opportunity to discuss ideas, meet other students and exchange knowledge and shared experiences.

The first task was for us all to be assigned a number either 1 or 2 which started off well and then students got so involved with the process on a positive note, that the numbers got mixed up and had to be reassigned. I was in group number 1. The task was that neither group could talk but had to form a line by the month of the year in which their birthday falls upon and then by the day. Using our hands to gesture the month and then the date allowed us to use none verbal communication.

The second task was to be placed into new groups mixed by the MSc and MA students and placed into groups between 1 and 7. I was in group one with Marie Feeley, Michael Ebini and Paul O'Kearney was absent. As a group we had to interview each other and ask the following questions:

- What would you like to gain from the group
- What skills can you bring

I interviewed Marie and these were the answered that Marie provided:

- Would like to have trust and confidence in the group
- Sharing of knowledge, technology and life experiences

I interviewed Michael and these were the answered that Michael provided:

- Collaborations and knowledge
- Additional knowledge to gain from the group and good organisation

As group 1 we then had to exchange interview details with group 7, Robert, Marie and Amr.

Remaining in our groups we were given the task of a treasure hunt and as a group we divided up the tasks to be completed and merge all the relevant details at the end. Our group name is GMMP4CCT which is all of our group initials and the name of the module combined. The group tasks that I had chosen to do were questions 4 and 8.

Question 4 give an example of a mind map and include the url: www.examtime.com and www.smartdraw.com

Question 8 In Merrion Square, take a photo on a Smartphone of each of the following 5 treasures':

- Dublin's Georgian House Museum
- The Rutland Memorial
- A collection of old Dublin lamp posts
- A central floral garden
- Find out the numbers of the houses of the following:

Oscar Wilde no 1
WB Yeats no 82
Daniel O'Connell no 58

The final task 3 was a teambuilding icebreaker where we had to use newspaper and cellotape to build the tallest free standing structure that would support a Cadburys Cream Egg and balance it for ten seconds to be judged. This exercise gave us the opportunity to see the group dynamics, creative processing and thinking. The task was enjoyable and interactive; just felt we could have put a plan of action in place first rather than jumping into the task without thinking it through.

We discussed our project and arranged to meet up on Monday to go over what direction we will take.