

Exploring the potential of Mahara for developing key skills for University

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Why Mahara?

- Formative feedback
- Sustainability
- Academic Skills and Digital Skills
- Structuring the summative assessment



CS4001 002 : Personal Development Planning Portfolio

CS4001 002 Assessment brief

Session 1 : Module introduction

Session 2: Assignment writing 1

Session 3: Assignment Writing 2

Session 4 : Assignment Writing 3

Session 5 : Assignment writing 4

Session 6 : Assignment support session

CV writing and Your Future Plan

Session 7 : Self-management

Session 8 : Group work

Session 9 : Presentations

Session 10 : Using feedback and self-assessment

1000 Word Reflection: a 1000 word reflection on key skills: strengths and areas for improvement

1

- **Review** module learning objectives, assessment criteria and indicative syllabus.

2

- Identify key **digital literacy skills**.

3

- Produce a **draft** of the portfolio in preparation for meeting with Learning Technologist (LT)

4

- **Meet with LT** to review draft and identify key functions and portfolio content.

5

- Produce Mahara portfolio **template** and provide access to all students.

6

- LT to work with Tutor to **introduce students** to their portfolio and support them in setting this up individually.
- Students to complete an **initial self-assessment** of their digital literacy skills.

7

- Revisit key points from session with LT in second lecture and ensure all students are **ready to use** the portfolio. Support all students in uploading their first reflective log and PDF files (ensure all students have a scanning App on their mobile devices).

8

- At key points in the module Tutor to access portfolios and provide **formative feedback**.

9

- Continued collaboration with LT and tutor to support students with submission.

10

- Students to **submit** their portfolio and complete the end of module **self-assessment** of digital literacy skills.

11

- Produce **guidance for markers** regarding key points to identify within the portfolio and support navigation.

12

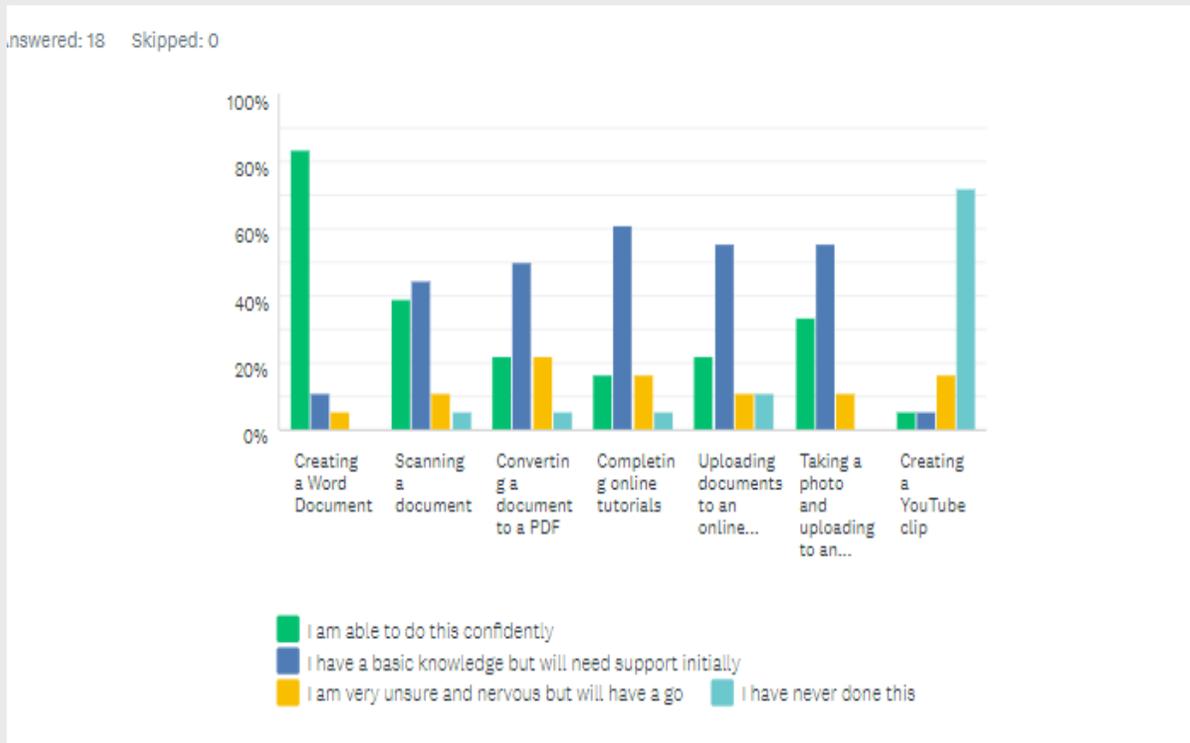
- Markers to grade and give **summative feedback** to students.

13

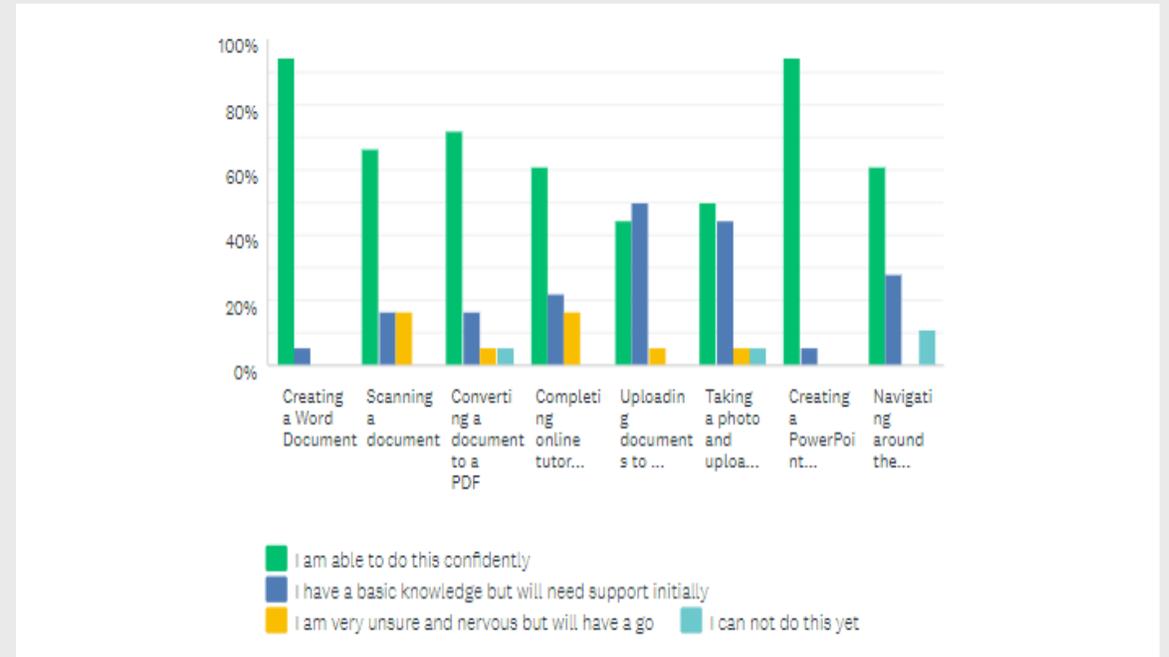
- Request **feedback** from markers.
- Review Portfolio, assessment and feedback in preparation for **2019/20**.

Development of digital literacy skills – student self-assessment

Start of module



End of module



Green – confident

Dark blue – basic knowledge/will need support

Yellow – nervous and unsure but will have a go

Light blue – I have never done this/can not do this

Instructions

This page should contain a 200-300 word reflection on your presentation strengths and weaknesses to date and how you intend on improving your skills to enable yourself to be successful as you progress.

PDF



[Details](#)

Reflection

In today's session, we focused on presentation skills, looking at how to deliver a good presentation, how to overcome nerves and how to turn them into a positive experience. We worked in small groups to create a short three-minute presentation on any chosen topic, my group choosing our favourite Netflix shows, which we then had to present to another group in the class. Presentations have been and still are a weakness for me as I am always very anxious at the prospect of them as I dislike talking in front of large groups of people. I think my main weaknesses surrounding my presentations skills is that, due to being anxious, I have a tendency to struggle to project my voice or look at my audience which often comes across as negative body language. I also find it difficult to tend to stumble on my words which can make the presentation hard to follow and confusing to my audience. I

Session 2: Assignment writing 1

Instructions

This page should contain a 200-300 word reflection on your understanding of how to reference correctly. You will have completed the referencing tutorial before writing this.

Information Literacy Tutorial (Open Badge)



[Add comment](#) [Details](#)

Reflection (200-300)

Session 2

Today Jo helped us to upload our first documents onto Mahara which I was pleasantly surprised about as I was expecting it to be much more complicated. We went through assignment writing styles and top tips for then for the first half of the lecture, then we went to the library to have a proper introduction to referencing. This did not pleasantly surprise me, in fact I now probably feel even more lost. I am currently really confused about the ways in which we have to reference specific types of writing, however I am also confident that this will get clearer with practice the more I do it. The tutorial that we completed about referencing I found very difficult, I struggle to fully understand information without seeing examples of it, so I found it all difficult to remember, however I was pleased with my results over all in the mini tests as I felt like I achieved higher than I had expected myself to. My biggest concern is the specific ways in which we have to reference different types of information, so I will make myself some instructions which I will have at to practice citing and referencing differ

Comments



Joanne Munyard
08 October 2018, 7:26 PM

Comments



Joanne Munyard
08 October 2018, 7:15 PM

Well done [redacted] despite being nervous about this portfolio you have completed the required tasks and uploaded them. In doing so you have already developed a range of new skills!

Comments

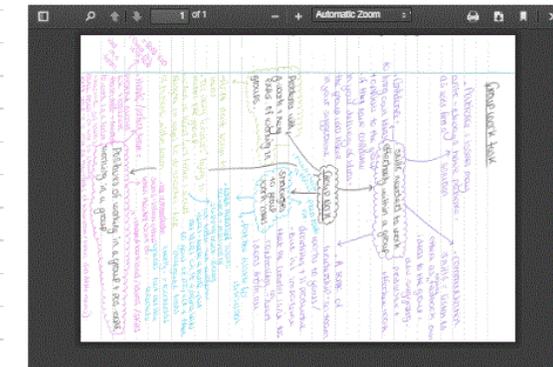


Joanne Munyard
07 December 2018, 11:58 AM

It is great to hear that you enjoyed this task. You do need to identify specific developmental points e.g. what do you now need to work on and how?

Session 8 : Group work

Evidence of your group task



[Details](#)

Reflection

This session taught me what a journal article is and how to read them. As it is important to skim read and focus on the abstract initially, to sum up the key aspects, so I know if the article will be a benefit to my assignment before I read it fully. Therefore, this has helped me as I can eliminate time wasting by not reading a whole article, if it is of no relevance. Plus I now understand the significance of journal articles for essay writing as they are academic, mostly peer reviewed (so reliable) and provide accurate information which can be very specific to early years practice, hence using journal articles will be a great benefit to my assignments, to develop my writing skills.

The sessions main focus today was on group work. Group work is important as it develops skills, such as patience, listening and communication, as these are all necessary in the effectiveness of a group project. Therefore the group task today, where we discussed the importance of group work and made a mind map, was useful as we learnt about the benefits of group work as well as issues that can arise and how they can be overcome. This is important to understand as this knowledge can assist us in future group projects, to help with the productivity of work, as we can bring up these strategies discussed today to help teamwork in the future, such as making sure we put time aside for discussion, where we include everyone's ideas. Therefore, the task today has helped me understand how to engage in group work, by listening to all and drawing up on my personal experiences, to develop the groups ideas. Consequently this has improved my 'teamwork' and 'listening and questioning' skills, found on the wheel, as well as my overall professional skills.

Comments



Joanne Munyard
31 October 2018, 1:29 PM

Please complete the tasks for this week as soon as possible.

Comments



Joanne Munyard
07 December 2018, 1:31 PM

Well done [redacted], you have put a great deal of work into your annotated bibliography and have reflected on your learning. Remember, that you will only be asked to produce annotated bibliographies in specific assessments. This will be made clear in the assignment brief. This is not a requirement for all assessments and you should check with the Module Tutor if you are unsure.

What did the students think of Mahara?

It allows me to see the progress that I have made throughout each session each week.

It's all presented together so I can see what I have completed or what needs to be done.

Everything is in one place, and you can do a little bit each week

Easy layout and easy to see what I have achieved and what I have left to do

It helps me to know where to put all my work.
You can keep track of your development

Easy to do each week which takes pressure off at end of module