

## **FINAL JOURNAL ENTRY-RAD PRAC 4**

I liked the online classroom, as it was very informative and helpful. Having various links and being able to search for information on the internet during lecture time was a new concept, but it was wonderful. I think this is a very effective way of teaching and learning especially for B. Tech students. At the beginning of the year, I did not expect Radiographic Practice 4 to be run on an online-system, this really surprised me as we are generally used to receiving handouts from the lecturer. Also, computers in the classroom are often viewed with skepticism. However once we got started, I found it to be fascinating and adapted. Online classroom provided me with assistance & communication outside the lecture room with the lecturer considering that lectures were held only once a month. IT based learning is great, it helps one keep in constant touch with the lecturer and fellow B. Tech students. All icons on the 'Course Toll' are excellent. Looking back on this year, I have found Blackboard to be so useful as it has everything organized for you, with learning modules for each discipline of Radiography.

CONVENIENT: with the online classroom, I was able to learn on my own schedule & even continue working a full-time job. I was able to read & study during the time of the day when I was @ my most productive time. By being able to share useful links with each other, assisted me in completing tasks/ assignments. Feedback was easily obtained through the chat tool. Everything was at my fingertips- all material was in one place. The design of blackboard was good- clearly defined the learning outcomes and assessments. It was a user- friendly technology. Black board taught me to manage my time effectively & efficiently. For me, the enhancement of personal growth & commitment was a definitive advantage of the online classroom. The article's in the MEDIA library regarding MSCT was helpful in carrying out most tasks. The online classroom definitely supported me in my learning and I wish that it was available to me during Research. All the information required is in one place and is easily accessible. The best part was that one was able to participate in weekend lectures- even if one was unable to attend a particular lecture. One can constantly be in touch with others students and lecturer, may query things.

Rad Prac 4 has built up my confidence to a certain extent- especially for presentations. Presentation's was a good idea- as it prepares 1 for speaking at seminars. I tend to get nervous during public speaking, but by doing B. tech (oral presentations), I have learnt to overcome this to some extent.

There was a lot of source reading.

I am not a very creative person, when it comes to things like Power Point presentations, posters. But my doing B. tech I have learnt so much about computers, from simple things like saving a document as a PDF & uploading it on to blackboard as an attachment. So, my computer skills have improved.

Another positive about blackboard- was the Safe Assign option. (it helped with case studies). We generally reference work with no indication of plagiarism- which is a serious issue, safe assign gives 1 an indication of how much plagiarism there is in your document. It definitely helped in reducing/eliminating plagiarism.

There is not much that needs to be improved with the way Radiographic Practice 4 was taught, however due dates for assignments need to be brought forward. The 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year was more relaxed & we had sufficient time for the submission of 1<sup>st</sup> case study whilst the latter part of the year was quite hectic.

Also, I've learnt that the theory suggested in learning is not a matter of accepting fixed facts, but is the dynamic, on-going & evolving result of computer interactions. It was great to explore in an online environment. The interplay of learning with technology turned out to be quite intricate.

The facilitator was excellent, materials were made available via computer, and I was motivated & reminders were constantly sent to us, so there was always a sense of "social presence". I was able to work from anywhere where there was Internet connectivity.

Rad practice 4 is important to the Radiography profession as it increases ones knowledge and skills and my expectation for this subject was to gain more knowledge. As radiographers we need to be developing our knowledge about our profession. The online classroom was an advantage, as one was able to interact with everyone at any given time. This subject is a comprehensive part of B. Tech degree and forms a crucial part of higher learning in Radiography. The subject is important as it keeps one abreast of current issues thereby improving ones capabilities in the field. Now, at the end of the year, Radiographic practice 4 has increased my awareness & capabilities in the profession.

My understanding of new advances has increased & assisted in learning & evaluating protocols and training of students/staff. I believe that Rad Practice 4 has had the tools to shape & mould me into a better diagnostic radiographer, which in turn will increase patient satisfaction with regard to service delivery @ work. The subject was challenging, time consuming & taxing yet also informative, enlightening & extremely beneficial to me. Radiographic practice 4 allowed me to improve my knowledge on the advances in my discipline. My expectation was to have a better understanding of certain new developments in CT as it is my wish to one day specialize in CT. The only drawback I can think of is that students (myself included) may lose concentration and may not pay attention as it is easy to get involved with the 'chat function' and click on all the links.

The only frustrating thing about blackboard @ times was that I sometimes experienced a problem with the connection line & had to redo work which is not always a pleasant thing. Overall, I was satisfied with the outcome.