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This is my senior year at old dominion university with a major in human services and a minor in sociology. I had changed my major in 2021 because I felt disconnected and didn’t see myself working in with the major, I originally had chosen. I’m glad I made the decision because I feel more confident and it’s more aligning with my personal interests. I love to help, meeting new people from different regions and cultures, and a chance to make a difference in people lives which I think this major was perfect for me. I’m almost at the end of finishing all my HMSV courses and this class was interesting and informative on things I never heard/learned about.

My learning experiences throughout this class has challenged me. All of the tasks really made me looks at things from a different perspective from the different aspects and position within a program evaluation. For example, all the discussion boards had different questions for the multiple areas/terms that are involved in program. Questions such as what are they key aspects of a formal evaluation report? [Topic: Discussion 16 (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion_topics/509106) What are the common problems in information systems? [Topic: Discussion Question 14 (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion_topics/509109) Use the text to identify the purpose of evaluation [Topic: Discussion Question 3 (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion_topics/509119) or what are the steps to plan an evaluation? [Topic: Discussion Question 4 (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion_topics/509115)These types of questions gave me the appropriate knowledge for each one and how they all are intertwining within the evaluation process. The online lectures helped me out as well. It was module 5 that truly had me lost for some reason, even after reading the chapters assign, still didn’t help. I went to the online lectures, [Online Lecture: Chapter 9 - Outcome Evaluations with One Group: 202220\_HMSV440W\_24139 PROGRAM DEV-IMPLEMENT-FUNDING (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/pages/online-lecture-chapter-9-outcome-evaluations-with-one-group?module_item_id=3964826), and she explained it perfectly for me to correctly answer the discussion board for that week.

I have the knowledge to know how to conduct a program evaluation. Being able to know the difference between stakeholders which are people who be involved within the program. Other ways stakeholders can be involved are people who sponsor it and getting income from the program. The evaluator which is a person who assesses the evaluation. Each role has various responsibilities and it help the way the evaluation goes. Knowing the importance of the use of evaluation planning such as examining the literature that needed to learn the failures and success. Planning the methodology to make the necessary decisions for the procedures, data collections, and presenting a written proposal are all aspects of evaluation. I can now recognize the different approaches that can be used such as objective-based model, theory-based model, capacity-building, or improvement-focused approach. These models can be used based on what type of evaluation would be needed for the program. Understanding how to properly write an evaluation report. This includes providing an outline/summary, describing the context of the evaluation, giving the findings found in the report, telling what data collection methods were used, and making it appealing to the eye (muted colors or colored paper). The importance of utilizing the stakeholders in the evaluation process because it helps with gaining insight within the program and preferred methods to help make the evaluation results be better. I can understand how the role of evaluation in the field of human services plays a huge role in understanding a program’s goals and how they achieve them. It helps determine if these methods are working for the program and seeing if improvements need to be made.

My learning is demonstrated throughout the course with answering and submitting my work for the discussion boards and assignments. Reading and applying what I read in the text to help me prepare for the questions. Replying to my classmates for related experiences and sharing my thoughts or advice with my peers. Areas I felt most successful in were the discussions boards with the help of the lectures and the book, answering the questions were relatively easy. I also had success in some of the major assignments and I really enjoyed doing the mind-map for module 6 [Task 4 Mindmap: 202220\_HMSV440W\_24139 PROGRAM DEV-IMPLEMENT-FUNDING (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/pages/task-4-mindmap?module_item_id=3964838). It was fun and engaging putting all my themes and related topics into one. Areas I felt improved the most was replying to 2 peers on every discussion board. I would forget and it brought my grade down and doing my work in a timely manner. I see this course’s content intersecting with my career because if I were to do an evaluation report, I now know the basics and the common terms. I can now use the knowledge gained from my past course and applied to what I learned from this class to put everything all together for my future classes. I use my knowledge from HMSV 346 which was a diversity issues class which talked about race, sex, and gender diversity, and applied it to the discussion board 15 [Topic: Discussion Question 15 (odu.edu)](https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion_topics/509108). I use how being culturally aware is important with trying to develop a learning environment and how it’s important in evaluation. How it can create a mutually understanding of other cultures and it shaped individuals.

Resources

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, March). *Discussion 16 What are the key components of a communication plan? Why are they important in evaluation reporting?* *Discussion 16 What are the key components of a communication plan? Why are they important in evaluation reporting?* Norfolk, VA; 4/14/2023.

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, March). *https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/pages/online-lecture-chapter-9-outcome-evaluations-with-one-group?* Norfolk,VA; 4/14/2023.

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, January). *Discussion Question 3 Use Ch. 2 of your text to identify the purpose of evaluation. Discuss which purpose directly relates to the evaluation you are conducting.* *https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/discussion\_topics/509119*. Norfolk, VA; 4/14/2023.

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, February). *Discussion Question 4 What are the steps to plan an evaluation? Identify the step you are in.* . *Discussion Question 4What are the steps to plan an evaluation? Identify the step you are in.* . Norfolk, VA; 4/14/2023.

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, February). *https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/133986/pages/task-4-mindmap?module\_item\_id=3964838*. Norfolk, VA; 4/14/2023.

Dr. Silverberg. (2023, March). *Discussion Question 15 What steps should be taken to develop a learning culture? Why is this important in evaluation? Explain*. Norfolk, VA; 4/14/2023.