During my time in this class, I've grown exponentially as a student as well as an engineer. My experience with Ayala's teaching was a learning curve, but it becomes very clear over the course of the semester that the benefit of the student is his absolute goal. In the first weeks of the class, I had great trouble grasping the concepts in the class. The grades I received on the first and second tests I took in this class are representative of the time in which I hadn't taken much initiative to understand the content being taught to me, as I found the class very difficult and was very discouraged. After my first test, I received an email regarding my grade and I was asked about if I needed extra help to perform better on assignments, showing concern for my future in the class. If I were to be able to send a message to myself before I started this class, I would tell myself to be less anxious to reach out for help in concepts that I struggled to grasp. Professor Ayala has an excellent history of being available and willing for his students, and I could have had greater benefit from that fact. I began to watch more of the recorded lectures after they had been posted, and on the third exam (https://sites.wp.odu.edu/dkmet330/tests/), after doing much studying and practice problems on losses in pipes and fittings, I managed to receive a grade that was over a 20% increase of the previous two. Throughout this course, my best work consistently came from my contributions to my course-long semester project (https://sites.wp.odu.edu/dkmet330/project/). Working with my project group over the duration of the semester gave me a sense of professionality that motivated me to do better in the class. Doing work with my group during our weekly meetings, I found that I had an easier time grasping the concepts. I was able to ask the more repetitive but necessary questions and discuss problems within my group. Being able to take the information learned in this class into my professional career will be essential for me, as I will no doubt be dealing with fluids as I work with and potentially design my own fuel systems. My biggest weakness throughout this class was my late understanding of concepts, specifically applying Bernoulli's equation to problems, and I also had much trouble formulating excel spreadsheets to calculate sets of data. Before I took this course, I had an understanding that it would be

difficult, but after completing it, I understand now that this class CAN be difficult, but if you utilize the resources given to you, it doesn't have to be.