Abstract

Industry master students work part-time in an engineering company. The Reflective Practice workshops are set-up to stimulate reflection about theory and practice. The workshop *My Role* is the first workshop, where the question is: What is my role as starting engineer and systems engineering student in my company? What can I contribute, how can I learn from practice?
Merete Faanes from Buskerud University College created the educational flow *Reflective Practice*. Reflective Practice is a thread throughout the entire master Systems Engineering to stimulate students to relate *Education and Practice*.

These workshops are the result of the cooperation of Merete Faanes and Gerrit Muller.
Describe your job at your company:

Describe your own work tasks

What is your contribution?

Discuss this description with your company supervisor

Update the job description based on the supervisor feedback

Add one paragraph with observations or lessons learned from the discussion with your company supervisor

cc your company supervisor when submitting the pre-assignment

Pre-assignment
9:00 welcome, last workshop, introduction this workshop

9:10 block 1: What is my work?

10:20 block 2: What is my environment?

11:30 block 3: What is my Role?

12:40 plenary discussion

12:50 pre-assignment next workshop, close
Block 1: What is My Work?

+ What component, function, or aspect do I work on
+ What technology and tools do I use
+ What is my deliverable

> be specific
> give examples

Results on flipover
Parts, Dynamic Behavior, Characteristics

- **Parts** interact
- **Characteristics** result in
- **Dynamics** function as
- **Prime system responsibility**

- **Prime interest of organization**
- **Prime interest of customer**
Block 2: What is My Environment?

+ Where do I fit in the organization?
  > be specific name department, group, project

+ Who are my immediate stakeholders?
  > be specific; names and roles

+ What do your stakeholders expect from you?

Results on flipover
Block 3: What is My Role?

+ What are my deliverables?
  > be specific: document names, reports, components, ...

+ What are my responsibilities?

+ How do I spend my time?
  > list of activities and estimate of e.g. hours per month

Results on flipover
Describe in what direction you want to develop yourself (which does not have to be as systems engineer) long-term, e.g. in 5 to 10 years; use max 2 pages.

Write a one-page reflection report, describing the workshop and the perception of your role in the company.

If your role is not yet clear at this point in time, then describe when and how this will be clarified.

Send the post-assignment to the teacher and cc your company supervisor.
Read "Multicultural Critical Theory. At B-School?" by Lane Wallace at


Describe an example in your job where and why critical thinking would help.
Alternate assignment; only after permission of the teacher

- do the pre-assignment and submit this to the teacher (as all other students)
- go through the workshop questions yourself
- discuss the questions and your answers with a local colleague
- write a (max) 2-page document with your answers including examples and rationale behind the answers
- send this 2-page document by mail to another student and ask for comments
- update the 2-page document
- do the post-assignment, include what the feedback of the other student changed in your thinking
- send 2-page document and post-assignment to the teacher