

Empowerment Technologies: What I Have Learned

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The first thing that comes to mind in E-tech (shortened from Empowerment Technologies) is that I actually *like* the projects the subject held. I like the digital space and anything involving it, so in a normal circumstance I'd be stoked. But the timeframe is short and there are other projects in tow...however I think that the positive outweighs the negative, because I think I'm sort of masochistic and I like learning. It also rekindled my desire to create websites and programs by learning coding, because of my frustration on relying on pre-made assets. I want it to be in my own vision, not someone else's.

I learned how to use WordPress during E-tech, which I'm happy for. I have always loved their sleek design and clean interface. Like many things, it's difficult at first, but I got used to it. My groups are...pretty terrible in these activities. I end up doing the majority or even all the work. I do learn a lot in the end. The biggest challenge was when I made everything. It's normalized now, sure, but this was particularly difficult because during the first semester, we created a research that would end up be implemented as a website in the second. I deleted that file and I have no copies of it so I had to *start all over again*. I did ALL of the work. I panicked a lot and rushed it all out. Manipulating Prezi also was a pain. I made it under two hours (*which is slower than I expected, how shameful*) because of how the interface was confusing and the website is heavy to load.

During the times that I have relearned and remastered making websites through Blogger and Wordpress, I enjoyed and relished it, experimenting in widgets, layouts and even adding music. Though the greatest thing that I have learned in E-tech is how I would like to learn Computer Science or at least learn that independently and I have gained that realization when E-tech inspired me. I went to an MCM seminar about web/game/AI development because of how I was inspired by E-tech to learn more and I definitely confirmed my interest.

I learned also that I can't really trust anyone unless they have proved themselves to be trustworthy in their performances. If I relied on the groupmates that have no credentials, I would've passed late (which is a huge no-no for me). I *could* instead just rely on myself in those times, because I knew my way around technology anyway, even if it's just the basics. I came up with this ever since I made a project all by myself (discussed earlier). I coped with this through just going with it and finishing it...be a little

bit more understanding enough to let yourself be trampled over...and *yes I'm aware of it*. The communication skills between my groups were *abysmal*, to say the least. When I try to communicate, even if I make them do tasks that are simple, *they don't even do it*. If I assigned them anything with defiance, I *sure won't get any results*. There's only one time that I had a great group because there's one individual there that's responsive and quite responsible (the other however, wasn't.).

I adjusted and made a lot of the projects by myself or the majority of it. I don't blame anyone, though. Some aren't used to technology or creating outputs in English, and I completely understood that. I think that it's still unfair, but I try to understand.