

Sukurat Jawando

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SWK357

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Reflection Journal 2

This week's chapter was inspiring for me. Although I am a bit worried about how to fit in knowing my placement is still uncertain as I struggle with a solid arrangement at the placement center, I am hopeful that something will come through soon. So writing about my experience as an intern at the placement is not visible right now but I'd like to write about my experience during an interaction with people whose experience or background is different from mine.

I would describe myself as an introverted person and only enjoy spending time with just one or two people, rather than large groups or crowds. So before an interaction, I am unsure of myself and mostly intimidated. I struggle with how to begin a conversation without sounding intimidated or anxious while I also air on the side of caution and fear of misrepresenting myself. I do not have much of those interactions back home in Nigeria. I am always within my comfort zone. But all of that changed when I came to the US and I am surrounded by people from different backgrounds and races.

Working in an environment with people of different backgrounds, races and nationalities can be a rewarding and fulfilling professional experience. Since my arrival in the US, the majority of my interactions and friendships have been with people from different cultures and backgrounds. I have come to learn along the way that we are just people with different worldviews. So I began to explore and improve my communication skills and finally decided to go back to school. And that's how I ended up at Alliance University.

My decision to empower myself is one of the best decisions I have made lately. Being back in school at first was difficult on many fronts, integrating into a school system that is different and advanced, fitting in in an environment with diverse students, adjusting to the learning method and the technology and other personal challenges I can't begin to mention but I can say now that my learning experience at Nyack has empowered me and my communication skills have improved greatly. I am now more confident when interacting with people from different backgrounds or experience from myself