**Instructions for a reflective learning diary**

In a reflective learning diary, the key factors are what you have learned and how.

A learning diary is helps you to assess what you have learned on this course. The aim of a learning diary is to analyze and comment on the course and lectures. The key to writing a learning diary is to draw on the lectures, but instead of just repeating what the lecturer has said, you should speak with your own voice. A diary is a subjective view, and a learning diary should reflect what you have heard and learnt - remember that your own analysis and insights are the ones that count.

In the learning diary you can, for example

- discuss how did the lectures and materials relate to your research and interests
- compare and contrast with the previous knowledge you have
- criticize or defend a point
- review what was new or interesting
- discuss how you could utilize the course in your own work
- give feedback or (constructive) criticism to the lecturers and organizers
- etc. etc. etc.

The following questions may help you write your learning diary:

- **What did I learn?** What was new to me? Was there something that changed my views and why? Focus on the importance of the themes to you, and analyze it.
- **What did I not understand?** What went against my own ideas? Why? What was less comprehensible? Why? Focus on and analyze the questions that left you puzzled.

What the course has taught is likely to have some relevance for you and your studies. Can you identify what this is? How are you able to apply this knowledge in your studies? How does this support your development as a student? Make note of and reflect on the thoughts that emerge as especially important.

**Format**

Write about one page per day – there is no upper limit.

You can use a very personal style - this is a diary, after all! You may include pictures, cartoons, anything you want, if you wish. You may also adopt a more academic style.

Whatever the style you prefer, please note that a mere summary will not enough. A learning diary demonstrate critical thinking. Please note that in this context "critical" does not mean "overly negative", but rather "analytical". That means, for example, that when you criticize something, you give clear, coherent reasons for you criticism.

**Submission**

Please submit your learning diary **latest by Friday May 29, 2020** to Riitta Kamula (riitta.kamula@oulu.fi).