1Q Journal Assignment

**Objective #1** – Honestly reflect on your learning experience thus far for the purpose of improving in the future.

**Objective #2** – Engage in a professional dialog with your “supervisor” so that each party knows exactly where the other stands in terms of expectations for improvement for the remainder of the school year.

**Assignment Part 1 – Initial Reflection** (25 points) – **DUE DATE 2:00 pm on Friday November 1**

You will write me an email that reflects on the following items:

1. Reflect on your learning experience **in class**. How does they way we run class work with your learning style (please communicate what you believe your learning style to be). Are there any aspects of the day today class that you would change? In your answer, please include commentary regarding your productivity with your groups/partners. Also, please comment on my overall presentation when reviewing new topics and/or modeling examples. Am I clear in my explanations, do you believe I spend enough (or too much) time answering questions
2. Reflect on your effort/engagement **outside of class**. How do you feel about the amount of HW and its relevance in relation to the topic(s) of the day? Describe how you have interacted with the website? How often to you check the blog? Have you watched any videos? What do you like about the website? Do you have any recommendations as to how to improve the website
3. Reflect on **your communication with me**. Are we communicating as regularly as we need to inside and outside of class? Do you ask questions inside/outside of class? Could you and I come to a better understanding of when you are/are not “getting it”? How can you (and I) improve the way we communicate with each other?
4. Reflect on the **Quadratic Formula Video Project**. What were your overall feelings about it? Do you believe you know where the formula comes from? How did you manage your time learning the derivation and producing your video? How long before the due date did you “start” the project? Do you believe you could have created a better product (why?) How could this project be improved
5. Please provide any other thoughts you may have regarding your learning experience. Are you achieving the grade/depth of learning that you were hoping when you chose this class? Is there anything else that I can do to enhance your learning experience

When doing your reflection, there are no right or wrong answers; I am only looking for honesty. I am also looking for a “professional” dialog, which means the following:

* Take pride in what you are writing.
* Do not give the appearance that you waited to the last minute and/or that you are just completing the assignment to “get it over with”.
* Write in complete sentences with organized thoughts; do not simply answer the questions above verbatim with short bullet points (again, taking pride in your work).
* You have the right to communicate dissatisfaction with me or any aspect of the class, however, when being critical, please communicate your thoughts in a professional manner. You will not have any points deducted for criticizing me, but you need to choose your words carefully.

**Assignment Part 2 – A conversation with your “supervisor”** (5 points)

I will reply to every journal entry that I receive. In my reply, I am going to express my thoughts/opinions about your journal entry as well provide other insight regarding my assessment of your performance in our class so far. Some replies by me will require a subsequent reply by you in a timely manner (**within 2 school days**). **The conversation will continue until such time as I provide you your grade for the journal entry**. If I reply to you and there is no grade, then it means that there is some further action needed on your part. The number of “exchanges” in this conversation between us will be different for each of you. Those with a high average and/or those of you who regularly communicate with me may require fewer replies than those who do not. Keys to success for this part of the assignment are:

* Checking your email once per day and being mindful that this assignment is ongoing.
* Answering the specific questions put to you in our exchanges in a thoughtful manner. While this is a conversation and therefore less “formal”, please try not to have “one word” answers. Actually have a conversation with me.
* Taking this assignment seriously and with/in the spirit that it is intended

This will be the only journal assignment for 1Q and it will count for 10% of your overall grade.