

Summary Reflection

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This class was very informational and I learned quite a bit throughout the semester. I wouldn't say I found any of the subjects to be individually interesting to me, but rather all of the material as a whole. That may sound a bit confusing, so I will explain further what I mean by this. No subject in particular drew significant interest from me. I am not a philosophy person and have never been. Many of my views do not align with those discussed in the class, and that is the bit that I found interesting. I enjoyed reading and learning about aristotelian eudaimonism, flourishing, and so on and so forth as a whole because it was not and is not how I view the world and life. I don't think that one has to be productive in order to be a successful and good human being, nor do I believe that this is the best or correct way to live. What I found meaningful in it all is the difference. I enjoy learning and discussing information that I don't necessarily agree with. There is a lot to appreciate in difference sometimes, and this is one that falls under that. So no, no one thing was significant for me, but all of it as a whole.

Following that, there were definitely some topics in class that highlighted some things I already had some basic thoughts of, but nothing really changed my mind. The idea of flourishing together and how we as people are in some way dependent on others in order to do so was definitely one that I liked and adjusted my thinking in some way. I've always had the thought that to live a "good" life we need friends, however that was rooted in or supported by other information. This was just something I had found to be true in my life, and those around me. The additional information that formed the idea of flourishing together obviously didn't change my mind or anything, but it did deepen my thinking on this. I especially found the connection aspect of it to be very thought provoking. We are all connected to one another and for one to flourish we must seek for others to do so as well. It sounds so nice. This made me think of society kind of like a web, where everyone is by some path connected to the other. We need to work together to keep the strings between us strong so that the web can hold and continue to

function.

The device free part of this class was also something that I, like many, have different opinions on. Initially, I did not expect to enjoy it. I was correct, it was not fun. However, I did appreciate the sentiment and idea behind it. We shouldn't always be "on" and connected to everything and everyone. In practicing device free time, I wouldn't say I really experienced or saw any benefits. I will in future keep in mind the thought that I am allowed time away from it all. No one needs to be reachable all the time. I wouldn't necessarily recommend doing this to anyone, however I wouldn't discourage it either. Everyone is different and I think that is a key part of doing something like this. It's not everyone's cup of tea and that's ok. I definitely would share the idea that being accessible all the time isn't necessary though. That, I think, could help free up and relieve some pressure on people. This idea is definitely one that has stuck with me.

In sum, I don't think I will be furthering my learning on this subject. There are definitely some parts I appreciated and will perhaps keep in mind, but overall I'm done with it. I enjoyed learning some of it and hearing the different views on the different subjects, but it's not really my thing. I don't agree with aristotelian eudaimonism and that's ok. I've chosen to live my life with my own set of beliefs and morals. I don't really want to feel like I have to live my life to some set of standards that were created and set by a bunch of men who died hundreds of years ago. Also, a large part of eudaimonia is that it is basically unachievable and I don't want to spend my life chasing something that isn't actually attainable. I can be a good person and do good things without it. Also, as previously stated, philosophy is not my thing. I don't intend on taking courses on it or rooted in it. I would rather focus my energies on other fields and topics, but that's just me.