

Writing Assignment on Lifelong Learning

Background

From Linda B. Nilson, *Creating self-regulated learners: strategies to strengthen student's self-awareness and learning skills* (Stylus Publishing, LLC, 2013):

“A major goal of higher education is to create lifelong learners—intentional, independent, self-directed learners who can acquire, retain, and retrieve new knowledge on their own. Only lifelong learners will be able to keep up with the explosive growth of knowledge and skills in their career and to retool into a new career after their previous one runs its course. This need to retool is already a reality in this society – witness the unprecedented expansion in adult education and the high unemployment rate among workers who have not met this challenge – and it will become the norm for this generation of traditional-age students as well as subsequent ones. Turning our students into lifelong learners no longer translates into the academic ideal of producing widely read cultural elites, but rather equipping our graduates with basic economic survival skills.”

The Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) has identified 12 attributes that (ideally) students graduating from an engineering program should have. One of these attributes focuses on lifelong learning. The description of the attribute is, “*the ability to identify and address [one's own] educational needs in a changing world, sufficiently to maintain [one's] competence and contribute to the advancement of knowledge.*”

The Faculty of Engineering has identified several skills/competencies associated with the attribute of lifelong learning. These are:

1. Set goals
2. Apply appropriate knowledge and skills to learning activities
3. Engage in self-direction and self-evaluation
4. Locate required information
5. Adapt learning strategies to new conditions

Your Assignment

Write a **1 page** essay to answer the following questions:

1. Why do you think lifelong learning is important?
2. How have your engineering studies prepared you to be a lifelong learner?
3. What will you do to ensure that you continue lifelong learning?

Provide specific examples as appropriate.

Submission Instructions

The PDF document should be a single page including your name and student ID # on top. Font type should be **Times New Roman, 12 pt, double spaced**, with 1” margins.