IT510 – Prof. Fudge
Journal Extra Credit Exercises

For *each* of the first five units of this course, you can earn four (4) extra credit points by completing a journal entry that fulfills requirements as set forth in this document.

Content and Length:
- Read the instructions below for each unit and answer all parts. Journal entries that do not meet all requirements will not earn points – no partial credit is offered.
- Write well and ensure there are no errors. You might like to write your entries first in Word to be able to spell-check and grammar-check.
- At least 80 Words are required for each week's entry. The minimum wording requirement does not include any salutation or signature, or any source material you might include. To ensure you are meeting the length, you might again like to write your entries first in Word.

Timing:
- The entries must be completed before midnight ET on the last night of the unit. Late entries will not earn points. Since these are reflective on the unit content, it is assumed you might not write them until towards the end of the unit.

Earnings:
- Points earned will be added to the unit assignment grade each week.

~ Unit 1 ~

Now that you know more about the job, reflect on your current knowledge of technology, management, analysis, or related skills. Identify what you feel may be easy for you to do as a systems analyst and explain why. Also, identify and explain what might be harder.

~ Unit 2 ~

Now that you have worked with Gantt and PERT charts, reflect on the need for showing data in a visual manner – how does this help you communicate with your team as well as the client? Also, what is the value in learning to use industry-standard software such as Visio and Project?

~ Unit 3 ~

Now that you have investigated various problems in working with both people and data, reflect on the need to communicate well with your clients. Explain the great importance of writing well, presenting ideas in a clear organization, and proofreading your work.

~ Unit 4 ~

Now that you have worked through some more diagramming and explored GUI design principles, reflect on the needs of the person(s) who are going to use your technology. Provide a brief (made-up) scenario in which you explain what errors can occur due to bad user-interface design.

~ Unit 5 ~

Now that you have analyzed more about interaction design, reflect on the applications you typically use on your cell phone, tablet, or computer. Pick one app or website; identify it by name and explain what visual, haptic/tactile, and potentially auditory elements enhance or detract from using it.