Two Objectives Integrated through Writing about the Philosophy of Technology

- Reality > Models of Reality (Sciences) > Metamodeling (philosophy) -- writing helps model and metamodel
- Reality > Science > Philosophy > Technology (putting science and philosophy to practical use)
- Writing as a tool for enhancing the learning experience which involves modeling and metamodeling
- Learning how to predict (the oracle of Delphi) -- Examples
- Will student Bush graduate from TAMUCC, transfer or drop out?
- Is this medical claim fraudulent?
- At what price will my Toyota Camry (2000, LE, 109K miles, 4 cylinder engine) sell?
- Which e-mail is spam?

Original student practice
- Data mining for business intelligence was briefly mentioned in different courses

Revised student practice
- A new course has been designed specifically to introduce students to many different data mining methods that can be used to discover business intelligence to help decision makers.
- Write how data mining methods can be used in specific contexts
  - Discuss in groups in class and online how to improve

In different classes such as MISY3310 or MISY3330, students briefly studied and wrote about data mining in general—but did not get a chance to write proposals and fully develop data mining applications for specific cases.

Original practice
- For MISY3310, the assessment used
- Multiple choice questions
- Essay questions, online discussions
- In MISY3330, students developed databases
- In ORMS3310, students learned how to use statistics for business

Revised practice
- In MISY 5370, the graduate course on data mining for business intelligence, students bring their knowledge of information systems, database management, and statistics for business together to write proposals for application and then to develop an application, apply it and interpret its results in the context of specific business cases.

Comments from Students:

- Annas Hidmi: “this course have been valuable in content, i have benefitted and gained a lot new information about the use of excel in dealing with data that i dont think i could have known from anywhere else. i liked the group work and the take home exams as it was a way to study and discuss more and have time to develope my learning skill.”

- Kuangyi Liu: “There are few things i like about this class. First of all, this class is pretty easy for students who doesnt have any knowleadge before take this class. The teaching style is easy and slow, so students will learn the content smoothly. The second thing is that the professor encourage students to involve in many projects, in which students can use and demonstrate what they learned and utilize on real life cases. This really helps students make sense of what they learn. The third thing is that the professor gives students chance to replace one of their previous exams with the final exam, and this helps students pick up their grade. At the end, i want to thank Dr. Mollick for the wonderful class. Thank you.”

- Tran Nguyen: “The course is very useful and I think it will be really helpful in many majors or industry. The thing I like best is about the different methods taught in the class. I found that there are many different techniques in data mining, bringing different advantages for the users. Moreover, Dr. Mollick was very flexible on the assignments. We may choose the majors that we feel interested and also the techniques we like. By that way, we easily learn from the things about the courses and how they would be helpful in our major. I believe this course would help me much in my future jobs..”