This Thing Called Communicating

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It’s no secret that 99% of the time, an applicant needs to pass an interview. Yet the current curriculum only allot less than 10% for improving student’s soft skills that are crucial to both landing a job and working effectively in the workplace. One solution we can consider is to formally inject more soft skills training that would aim to boost a student’s confidence in his or her oral and written communication skills. It may also be viewed as a practical approach to preparing them for other careers such as sales, customer representatives or as a freelancer. Freelancing or work-at-home jobs have now become popular, thanks to online platforms such as UpWork and 199Jobs. However, regardless of how talented a person is, if he or she cannot pass the initial interview by the employer, he or she won’t likely be able to get an offer. Hence, the need to improve communication skills. We can’t deny the obvious fact that not more than 50% of graduates were able to practice their fields of their profession. Therefore, it would be better to prepare them for uncertainty by equipping them with one of the most basic, albeit universally required skill to make a living: communication skills.

In a published study by a Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) company Magellan Solutions, there were about 1.3 Million people employed in the BPO industry as of 2017 and is expected to grow in the coming years. Working in BPO has become more attractive largely due to having average compensation of more than double compared to the Philippine’s average salary. In addition, having good communication skills would certainly help them get jobs including sales and freelance works. Instead of requiring students to copy notes from the board, they should rather be encouraged to express their
thoughts more often. Instead of rewarding the most quiet student in the class, we should encourage them to communicate more with each other.

References:

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