

MODULE:

GROUP PROJECT

Aims and Objectives

- Recognition of the need for co-operation and collaboration with team members when developing a software project;
- Good communication skills;
- Experience of the processes involved in project management, design, implementation and documentation of systems;
- An awareness of the need for, and necessity of, good project documentation;
- The experience of applying the design methodologies and program implementation skills acquired during the coursework to a real world application;
- The experience of developing a medium sized application from the initial system requirements through to product delivery;
- A commitment to the need for standards at all levels of system development.

Learning Outcome

- Experience working in a group environment;
- Sharing and collaborating in the complete system life cycle;
- Develop a medium sized application from the initial requirements through to product delivery;
- Producing a full suite of documentation covering all aspects of the system processes;
- Importance of communication in a shared collaborative process.

Assessment Methods

- Course Work 100%

SYLLABUS – Group Project

Teaching Strategy

Each group will have a supervisor to guide group discussions; provide guidance in the development process; provide direction in technical areas and ensure that deadlines are agreed and maintained. The primary role of the supervisor is as a facilitator.

Composition of Groups

Groups should comprise no more than four persons. A group of size 1 is not acceptable. Ideally each group should appoint a project manager who will take responsibility for the management of the project. Each member of the group should have responsibility for developing a particular aspect of the problem given. The marking scheme should reflect this. Group projects can cause problems where one or more members of a group fail to perform. This can cause problems for other members of the group and may ultimately lead to a fail mark for everyone concerned. To avoid this situation it is best that each member of the group has their own job to do. In this way if they do not perform the other members are not penalised to the same degree. Of course, the whole point of the project is to give students the experience of working in a group situation and, hence, marks must be allocated for the overall group performance.

Assessment

The project will be assessed by the group supervisor and the overall project co-ordinator. In light of the comments above it is suggested that at least 30% of the marks go for the overall group performance. The remaining marks should be awarded for the individual performance in the group. The main components to be evaluated are:

- Documentation of System Requirements and Analysis of Problem Domain;
- Implementation Process and Documentation;
- Human Computer Interface;
- Product Functionality;
- Product Demonstration;
- Overall Quality of Development Process and Documentation