SD5953 Successful Project Management

Compulsory subject

Level 5
Credit value 2

Pre-requisites
Nil

Co-requisites
Nil

Exclusions
MIC505

Subject Coordinator
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Objectives

Great ideas mean very little without effective execution to make them a reality. Project management is about bringing ideas into reality in a structured and controlled way. It is an important skill that allows you to define the scope and nature of what is to be done, estimate the needed time and resources, create workarounds for the risks that might arise, ensure the proper tracking as things progress, and evaluate the lessons learned for use in subsequent projects. This class covers all areas of project management for effectively implementing a successful product development cycle, and is specifically tailored to help plan your capstone project.

Intended learning outcomes

Upon completing the subject, students will be able to:

Professional skills
1   assess the risks and limitations of projects
2   develop a work breakdown structure and schedule
3   assess the resource needs of projects
4   deal with ongoing project tracking, reporting, and any needed adjustments
5   strategically plan objectives and develop a comprehensive plan so that Master's capstone project can be accomplished successfully

Transferable skills
6   adapt the skills of project management and use it to plan a project for any discipline
7   develop concepts by looking at opportunities
8   plan strategically
9   determine worthiness of a project

Subject synopsis

Students will be introduced to:

- cultivating ideas to become concepts and concepts to become projects
- developing a project scope and charter
- developing a work breakdown structure, project hierarchy, and schedule
- identifying and procuring resources needed for the project
- managing ongoing projects
- step-by-step final project development

Teaching and learning methods

Activity	Purpose
Lectures	To introduce students to two distinct approaches to Project Management; The traditional, waterfall method via exposure to the Project Management Institute (PMI) Body of Knowledge (BOK) and some progressive, IT-driven approaches exemplified by the Agile Project Management and Agile Software Development methodologies
Pitching	Putting principles into practice via extensive preparation for a formal project pitch exercise
Planning	Progressively developing and completing a comprehensive, professional quality Project Plan over the course of the semester
Feedback	To allow students to learn from the strengths and weaknesses of their peers and to provide a framework for evaluating the effectiveness of the students' projects from various perspectives

Assessment methods

	Assessment task	Weighting	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Learning outcomes to be assessed
1	Assignments	100%	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Total	100%									

Purposes	
Assignments	**Assignment 1: Executive Summary (25%)** The Executive Summary is a short document (~2 Pages) that captures the essence of the envisioned work. Its purpose is to alert the organization of the aims of the Project Manager, to help guide discussion and to serve as the basis for a more formal document should the Executive Summary be positively received. In this course, positive reception is implicit. **Assignment 2: DRAFT Project Plan (25%)** Preparation and submission of the DRAFT Project Plan (~10 – 15 pages), which is the result of fleshing out the Executive Summary in a structured fashion as per the content of the course lectures. The DRAFT Project plan features sufficient additional details and content for a decision-making body to render a verdict on whether or not the project is considered viable and worthy of being packaged into a formal project pitch exercise. In this course, the acceptance is implicit. **Assignment 3: Project Pitch (25%)** Re-packaging and presentation of the DRAFT Project Plan in a public setting after feedback has been received regarding its written content. The Project Pitch Exercise (~10 - 12 minutes) enables the groups to present their projects in a supportive, collaborative environment where the participants deliver an overview of their project before their peers and instructor in an environment were constructive feedback is encouraged. **Assignment 4: FINAL Project Plan (25%)** As a result of the processes encapsulated above, the Groups

are given a period of time to integrate and synthesize the feedback they have received from their instructor and peers and then submit the highest-quality FINAL Project Plans (~10 – 25 pages) they can possibly generate for review.

Student study effort expected

		hours
	Class contact	
1	Lectures, workshops and seminars	24
3	Critiques	8
	Other student study effort	
1	Self-study	12
2	Project work	26
	Total student study effort	**70**

References

Books

Barkley, B. (2007). Project Management in New Product Development. McGraw-Hill Professional.

Billows, D. (2011). Essentials of Project Management. The Hampton Group, Inc.

England, E. & Finney, A. (1998). Managing Multimedia, Project Management for Interactive Media. (2nd ed.) Boston, MA: Addison-Wesley Professional.

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Kerzner, H. (2009). Project Management: A Systems Approach to Planning, Scheduling, and Controlling. Wiley.

Project Management Institute (2008). A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge, Fourth Edition.

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