
MIS 4390

Information Systems Capstone

Prerequisite: MIS 4330, Systems Analysis and Design

Course Description

This project-based capstone course provides students with experiential (i.e., “real world”) learning opportunities, working collectively to address an opportunity identified by an industry client. Student teams will apply management information systems principles and techniques to complete the assigned project. While each team may have significantly different goals based upon the needs of its client, all students will be provided the opportunity to further develop critical-thinking abilities, comfort with working in ambiguity, and interpersonal, communication, and presentation skills.

Learning Goals

- Learn to effectively work with peers to manage mutual responsibilities for project success
- Learn to create professional quality deliverables
- Learn to collect project requirements from stakeholders and to effectively communicate orally and in written form
- Develop competency in setting project direction and achieving progress without constant supervision or predefined “correct” solutions

Learning Outcomes

- Students should effectively coordinate interdependent tasks and resolve minor project and personnel difficulties
- Students should produce deliverables that are error-free, convey complete and relevant information, and successfully address the project goals as defined in the statement of work
- Students should effectively engage external stakeholders for information, knowledge, and support
- Students should successfully translate broad goals and objectives into measurable tasks and deliverables

Fall, 2013

W 7:00 PM – 9:45 PM, JSOM 2.904

Instructor: Kelly Slaughter, PhD

E-Mail: kts130030@utdallas.edu

Office: JSOM 2.703

Office Hours: Wednesday 6:00 to 7:00 PM, and by appt.

Textbooks

None

Milestones

Sept 11th

Signed Statement of Work

Nov 13th

Draft Version of Final Deliverables

Dec 4th

Mock Presentation

Week of Dec 9th

Client Presentations and Final Deliverables

Evaluation

There are six factors that will be used to determine the student's final grade:

Internal Weekly Deliverables	10%
Client SOW Deliverables	30%
Draft Final Presentation / Draft Final Project Deliverable	10%
Final Presentation / Final Project Deliverable	20%
Peer Ratings	10%
Participation	20%

Internal Weekly Deliverables

Students will provide to the instructor a weekly status report following the structure and expected content discussed in class.

Client Statement of Work (SOW) Deliverables

Each team will develop their own workplans and interim deliverables agreed upon by both the team and the client. The SOW deliverables will be graded based upon quality and timeliness.

Presentation / Project Deliverable (draft and final)

Each team will be assigned a project that has a final product deliverable defined in the SOW. This grade will be based upon the quality (coherent, error-free written documents) and match between work products and criteria for work products as agreed upon in the SOW. The instructor will consult with the client before assigning this grade.

Peer Ratings

At the end of the semester, team members will rate one another, and this rating will be used to set the peer rating grade. Apart from the peer rating grade and the participation grade, students will receive the same assignment scores as their teammates.

Participation

The participation grade will be determined by attendance of the Wednesday evening class. Students are allowed one unexcused absence. Additional absences will result in 10% taken from the participation grade.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This capstone project is unlike other classes in that as we are working with external organizations, the quality of our work also establishes the reputation of UT Dallas. In addition, while many classes include group projects, in this class the overwhelming component of your performance is group based; consequently your performance as an individual will impact your teammates as well. If in the judgment of the instructor a student is not taking the quality of the group's work seriously or is causing difficulties for other teammates, the instructor (after one written warning) will take the underperforming member off the team and either fail the student or provide an intensive individual assignment.

Grading Policy

≥ 96.7%	A+
≥ 93.3%	A
≥ 90.0%	A-
≥ 86.7%	B+
≥ 83.3%	B
≥ 80.0%	B-
≥ 76.7%	C+
≥ 73.3%	C
≥ 70.0%	C-
≥ 66.7%	D+
≥ 63.3%	D
≥ 60.0%	D-
< 60.0%	F

Class Administration

eLearning will be used for class content and the recording of grades. Class announcements (e.g., change in assignment dates) will be sent to the student email on record in eLearning. It is the students' responsibility to regularly check their email accounts.

General Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

Class Calendar *(subject to change; changes will be posted in eLearning)*

Week	Dates	Description	Deliverables Due
	Prior to start of class	Project charter completed by client and instructor	
Week 1	August 28 th	Project Introduction, PMBOK framework	
Week 2	September 4 th	Project Planning	
Week 3	September 11 th	Team work sessions	Signed SOW, Project Plan
Week 4	September 18 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 5	September 25 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 6	October 2 nd	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 7	October 9 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 8	October 16 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 9	October 23 rd	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 10	October 30 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 11	November 6 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 12	November 13 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW
Week 13	November 20 th	Team work sessions	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW + mock presentation
Week 14	November 27 th	Off	
Week 15	December 4 th	Mock Presentations	Weekly Update (internal and client) + deliverables as documented in SOW + mock presentation
Week 16	Week of Dec 9 th	Client Presentations	Client presentations