9.1 Project Management

This topic is intended to give students an understanding of the underlying theory of project management as well as an opportunity to plan, design and implement an information system that has a purpose. The chosen information system implemented in project work should be drawn from:

- a database information system
- a communication system
- a transaction processing system
- a decision support system
- an automated manufacturing system
- a multimedia system.

The construction of the information system will follow the stages detailed in the Preliminary topic Developing Information Systems. Other system development methods have been included beyond the traditional methods. One large project or a number of smaller projects may be undertaken in the course. If smaller projects are undertaken, they need to occur over a significant amount of time and involve sustained work. Project(s) should allow students to see the information system in its full context. Students should identify the purpose for the information system, the participants, data/information and information technology that work with the information processes. Project work requirements are described in the Course Structure on page 9.

Outcomes

A student:

- H1.1 applies and explains an understanding of the nature and function of information technologies to a specific practical situation
- H1.2 explains and justifies the way in which information systems relate to information processes in a specific context
- H2.1 analyses and describes a system in terms of the information processes involved
- H2.2 develops and explains solutions for an identified need which address all of the information processes
- H3.1 evaluates and discusses the effect of information systems on the individual, society and the environment
- H3.2 demonstrates and explains ethical practice in the use of information systems, technologies and processes
- H4.1 proposes and justifies ways in which information systems will meet emerging needs
- H5.1 justifies the selection and use of appropriate resources and tools to effectively develop and manage projects
- H5.2 assesses the ethical implications of selecting and using specific resources and tools, recommends and justifies the choices
- H6.1 analyses situations, identifies needs, proposes and then develops solutions
- H6.2 selects, justifies and applies methodical approaches to planning, designing or implementing solutions
- H7.1 implements and explains effective management techniques
- H7.2 uses methods to thoroughly document the development of individual and team projects

1. Techniques for managing a project	
Students learn to:	Notes:
 communication skills necessary for dealing with others 	 Necessary communication skills: Active Listening Negotiation Skills Conflict Resolution Team Building Interview Techniques
 the consequences for groups that fail to function as a team, including: financial loss employment loss missed opportunities 	 If the project team fails to achieve the common goals it can lead to [Disadvantage]: Financial loss Employment loss Missed opportunities Conflicts Decrease in job satisfaction and productivity.
 project management tools, including: Gantt charts scheduling of tasks journals and diaries funding management plan communication management plan identifying social and ethical issues 	 Tools used: Gantt Chart Used for scheduling tasks and the scope of the project. Plotted on a horizontal bar graph with time [horizontal axis] and project tasks [vertical axis]. Journals and Diaries Record day to day events within the project system, detailing the achievements as well as the mistakes and problem that could be implemented to prevent from further damage. Funding Management Plans

Students:	Notes:
understand the communication skills required to manage a system development project, such as: - active listening - conflict resolution - negotiation skills - interview techniques - team building	 Communication skills: Active Listening Involves giving the speaker your full attention as well as participating in this conversation. Techniques include:
 understand the need to apply project management tools to develop a system using a team approach 	 Project management tools: Used to record, document and communicate with others in the project team. These tools can provide an easier and enhanced understanding to what the task is about. [Helps users and participants make clears choose and set them on the right path]. Also helps the team know who is doing which task and when it's completed.

	 Financially helps the team know the expenses of the project; it they need some cutbacks, or allocate more funds to a particular task to further improve the project. Consequences [optional]: Lack of communication/miscommunication can lead to failure in the task. Mess up with the whole project.
 appreciate the advantages of groups that function as a team, including: increased productivity enhanced job satisfaction the development of a quality system 	 If the team can successfully communicate and achieve the purpose of the project [Advantages]: increased productivity enhanced job satisfaction the development of a quality system more ideas to implement
 appreciate the need for complete documentation throughout all aspects of the system 	
 assess the social and ethical implications of the solution throughout the project 	

2. Understanding the problem	
Students learn to:	Notes:
 approaches to identify problems with existing systems, including: interviewing/surveying users of the information system interviewing/surveying participants analysing the existing system by determining: 	 Helps us identify the problem by gathering useful information within and outer the existing system. Thus, we can also suggest appropriate and efficient solutions to prevent further breakdowns. Surveys → Constructed with relevant questions beforehand to draw out a more effective and relevant issues and feedbacks. Interviews → Can be constructed real time with a one on one or small groups, communicating about the different ideas and needs for the system. Approaches: Interviewing/surveying users of the information system: Primary concern is fulfilling the need of the users. Collection of data from participants and users that analysis the problems.

- what it does	Helps identifies the users experience and implements new ideas to improve the system.
- who uses it	 The larger the amount of information received the more effective the problems and benefit can be improved [Accurate
requirements reports	results].
	 Interviewing/surveying participants:
	 Collection of data from participants are collected mainly for identifying the problems/issues since they have interacted with
	the system, thus also may help us solve some of the problems as well.
	 They will generally have knowledge of the information processes occurring and thus will be able to have a more vital
	statement of what the system needs implementing.
	 Analysing the existing system by determining:
	It's very important that every participants/user can analyse the system as they will be the ones improving it.
	They need to know, how it works, what it does, and who uses it.
	- Requirement Report:
	 Used by project managers to understand the problems and found all the best solution available within all the important
	elements.
■ requirements prototype – a	 Requirement prototype: A working model of an information system, built in order to understand the requirements of the system.
working model of an information	They are used when the problem is not easily understood.
system, built in order to understand	 Repetitive process of prototype modification and participants' feedback until the problem is understood
the requirements of the system	In doing this is effective draw out the hidden issues and repeatedly found more issues.
 used when the problem is not 	Can be the basis for further system development.
easily understood	Helps to clarifies any issues with the problems.
 repetitive process of prototype 	Advantages of Prototyping:
modification and participants'	 Increases the understanding of the system
feedback until the problem is	 More productivity involved
understood – can be the basis for further	 Few changes for the following stages
	 Thus, makes the system easier to create
system development	Disadvantage of Prototyping:
	- Timing consuming
	 Cost effective
	 Limitations [Since is a working model, it not exactly like the actual model]
<u> </u>	

Students:	Notes:
 apply appropriate techniques in 	Understanding [Cyba Taxis]

understanding the problem create a requirements prototype from applications packages that provide: - screen generators - report generators use a prototype to clarify participants' understanding of the problem	 Techniques for understanding the problem Interviews: Cyba Taxis can interview current groups of taxis and questions and discuss the taxis experience, to help further assist them with their jobs. Surveys: On the Cyba Taxis app, they can create a section of surveys asking about the customer's services and experiences when riding with them. Questionnaires: Online communications: Cyba Taxis can hold can online chat/ help support for customers/taxis drivers that have issues with the company. Telephone surveying: Since customers are required to enter their phone number, Cyba Taxis can send them a message or telephone the customers for hand on interactions with the problems. All these techniques help creates problems and flaws in the system, so Cyba Taxis can improve their system to prevent future customers from experiencing that flaws. Requirement Prototype: Cyba Taxis can target a certain location with certain taxi drivers and aim to identify problems. Screen Generators: Their online website can be programmed to collect survey data and interviews can create spreadsheets and excel documents that allow for display digitally. This allows for a much more effective way to analysis the problems. Report Generators: Taxi drivers can also hold a report book when doing their job. They can write about the experience and the number of customers that had. Also, reporting any problems and issues around the area [Another taxi service, lack of customers, customers' behaviours]. Prototype to clarify participants' understanding: With the given Requirement Prototype, participants can identify the problems about the certain location and either change to a different area or stick with the current one, modifying and repeating the process, until the issues are solved.
 interpret a requirements report which includes: the purpose of the systems an analysis of an existing system definition of requirements 	 ■ Requirement report: A essential document used by project managers to understand the problems and suggest beneficial solutions. Giving the existing system a direction and adds purpose to the system. The purpose of the systems
 diagrammatically represent existing systems using context diagrams and data flow diagrams 	 Context diagrams: They are set at Level 0 Shapes and symbols ✓ Rectangle → Entity ✓ Circle → Process ✓ Arrows → Data Flow

	Only are allowed one circle [Process]
• identify, communicate with and	
involve participants of the current	
system	
 create a requirements prototype 	
from applications packages that	
provide:	
 screen generators 	
report generators	
use a prototype to clarify	
participants' understanding of the	
problem	

3. Planning	
Students learn to:	Notes:
 a feasibility study of proposed solutions, including: economic feasibility technical feasibility operational feasibility scheduling 	 Feasibility study is the analysis of the numbers of possible solutions that can be achieve to prevent failure in the systems. Remember TOES: Technical Feasibility Determines the availability of the required information technology. Does the system have the all the right and new equipment's [Hardware/Software]? Operational Feasibility Determines if the new system will accept and support the goal of the organization. Will old be able to cope with the new? i.e. Will the old skills, require new training to perform with the new system? Economic Feasibility Compares the expenditure and affordable, as well as also expecting benefits and profits. Will the user be able to afford the system? Will the team be financially fit to run the system? Schedule Feasibility Determines if time is available to purpose the system. Will the solutions run according to the Gantt chart requirement?
 choosing the most appropriate solution 	 When choosing the most appropriate solution, Project managers will choose the most beneficial solution in the outcomes written in Feasibility Study. These solutions then are recorded in the project plan for further use.

- choosing the appropriate development approaches
 - traditional
 - outsourcing
 - prototyping
 - customisation
 - participant development
 - agile methods

- 6 types of system development approaches
 - Traditional or Structure Approach
 - Very formal step by step stages
 - Follows the UPDIT structures
 - Traditional approach may take longer than other approaches by it provides detailed and deliverable result for each stage. This can be very beneficial.

Outsourcing

- Involving using **another company** to develop parts or even complete the new system.
- Passing control to other companies.
- This method is used wither because the team either has no time to complete a certain task or there is not enough skills to ace the part of the system.
- Cost efficiency; outsourcing will provide experts from other companies to deal with the system, rather than spending more money on hiring worker to preform new skills.

Prototyping

- A limited working model of the system that is usually constructed for clarification to the clients/participants about the requirements.
- Prototyping is concentrated on the inputs and outputs.
- Meant for trial and error, which allows the developers to construct a clearer solution/understanding.
- Cost efficiency; a full-scale model would be too expensive to test.
- Is non-formal

Customisation

- An existing system is customised to suit the specific needs and requirements.
- The hardware and software are being modified to the new system.
- Copyright any be an issue if this approach is used incorrectly.

Participant Development

• The participant becomes the designer/developer and develops their own software solutions.

Agile Approach

- Team base development/skill for completing the system rather than following structured stages.
- Requires Team Building and cooperation.
- More suitable for system that requires regularly modification rather than one full transformation. [Updates]
- Well suited for web based software development.

• the requirements report that:

- details the time frame
- details the subprojects and the time frame for them
- identifies participants
- identifies relevant information technology
- identifies data/information
- identifies the needs of users

Requirements Report:

In every Requirements report, must contain an introduction with the system's purpose

Details the time frame

• Time frame usually belongs in the System scope, along with Money and Scope. [Triangle Scope]

Details the subprojects and the time frame for them

• This is usually done by Gantt charts. They can be graphed and schedule as subprojects being horizontal bar chart.

Identifies participants

• This can be a list of participants involved and their different type of skills/nature/personality/feature that may affect the system.

Identifies relevant information technology. [system operation]

- This section identifies the hardware and software required for the system.
- This notify us if an upgrade is new to suit the new system, or do workers and user need addition skill in some information technology.

Identifies data/information

- This section includes the requirements that address the any addition data/information needed for the system.
- Also, details about the storage of data and other data/information by other organisation.

Identifies the needs of users

- This addresses the users need for the new system.
- Collected data from surveying/questionnaires/interviewing are listed and considered for the system.

Students:	Notes:
 conduct a feasibility study and report on the benefits, costs and risks of the project 	
 compare traditional, iterative and agile system development approaches 	
 create Gantt charts to show the implementation time frame 	
 investigate/research new information technologies that could form part of the system 	

4. Designing

St	udents learn to:	Notes:
•	clarifying with users the benefits of the new information system	 User should be able utilizes with the system, and achieve their particle needs. Thus, project managers must be able to clarify and provide users with benefits of the new information system.
•	designing the information system for ease of maintenance	The design phase can be implemented be ease maintenance like time, effort and money .
•	clarifying each of the relevant information processes within the system	 Collecting: the process where data is gathered and inputted for further analysis. Organising: the process where data is formatted into its appropriate structure. Analysing: the process where data is transformed into useful information. Storing and Retrieving: the process where data is save and access later. Transmitting and Receiving: the process where data is send from within and outside the system. Displaying: the process where data is outputted on a display for user and participants. Processing: the process where data is manipulated.
•	detailing the role of the participants, the data and the information technology used in the system	 Participants A special class of user that interaction and involve one of the information processes. Data Raw piece of information that can be interpreted via the information processes to become useful information. Information technology Hardware and Software used in an information system.
•	refining existing prototypes	 Refining Existing Prototypes It requires modifying the existing prototype to work towards the final system. Evolving it to meet the user's standards and provided more better feedbacks. Collective test is used to refine the prototype to suit it in real life scenario.
	participant development, when people within the information system develop the solution – participant designed solutions – tools for participant development such as guided processes in application packages	 Participant development is development is when participants become the designer and develop the system to suit them. Participants designed solutions On-going feedbacks by participants Interviews from participants and other forms of collecting critical opinions on the system. Through questionnaires, surveys and forms are crucial when creating a solution. Tools for participant development such as guided processes in application packages Application software installed with wizard setup and assistant can guide users to perform tasks. This lowers the amount of difficult and lowers the chances for questions.

 They can be created for the whole system, or be distributed in topics relevant to the system.

- tools used in designing, including:
 - context diagrams
 - data flow diagrams
 - decision trees
 - decision tables
 - data dictionaries
 - storyboards

Tools used in designing include:

Context diagrams

- Links from entities to process.
- We only must draw Level 0 Context diagram. [Must only have one process]

Rectangles → Entities

Circles → Processing system

Arrows \rightarrow data flow of data and the data entered and exited

Data flow diagram

- More complex diagram compared to context.
- Represents the change in the data when process and stored.

Rectangle → Entities

Circle → Process

Open Rectangle → Storage

Arrows → Data flow

Decision trees

- Diagrammatic representation of all the possible solution of a topic.
- Branches out the solutions, ending with the resulting action.

Decision tables

- 2D table that represent all the possible solutions and requirement.
- The table will have a list of condition and at the bottom is the final action.
- It less user-friendly but doesn't branch out with reduced columns than a decision tree.

Data dictionaries

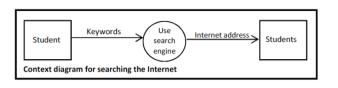
- Is a table that lists of the field name and displays the description of the field.
- Usually consist of a field name, data type, data format, field size,

description, example.

Metadata uses this design to assign its data's data name.

Storyboards

- Storyboards are used mainly for designing user interface software.
 They are interactive and will bring upon another board upon interacting with the current board.
- They are laid out with screens and connected to one another, using



Conditions	Rules		
Number of web sites >10	~	X	X
Number of Web sites <10	х	~	х
No results	x	X	~
Actions			
Use a more specific search	~	X	X
Access each web site	x	~	X
Try a new keyword	x		~

Field name	Data type	Data Format	Field Size	Description	Example
UserID	Text	NNNNNNNN	8	Unique eight digit number represented as text	0001539
FirstName	Text		25	First name of employee	Bill
Surname	Text		25	Surname of employee	Smith
DOB	Date	DD/MM/YYYY	10	Date of birth as a short date format	15/07/1982
HourlyPayRate	Currency	#####.##	8	Rate of pay expressed in dollars per hour	34.50
Height	Real	#.##	3	Height in metres, with two decimal places	1.58
FeesPaid	Boolean		1	Y or N for Yes or No	Υ

navigational links. ■ There are three types: Linear, Hierarchical [common for webpages], Combination. ■ User interface → When designing a user interface, it is important to know the statistic of users and their consistency of knowledge with the software, having recorded actions and reactions of what they are doing. The UI must show all possible function that are operational and an end/way out on potential threats.
Combination Linear Heart-Neal Non Linear

Students:	Notes:
 develop a solution to a problem from a prototype 	 Prototypes The prototype must contain an input and output to clarify the users understanding of operation. Screen designs are appropriate. Hardware and software specification must be check to suit the prototype before making it. The system must be tested on different sceneries before implementing, for safety, both economically and beneficially. Documentation of the new system should be required, keeping track of the progress and change made to prevent repeated approaches and enhancing knowledge of the problems. Backup and recovery is required in the documents. Documentation for the user should be issues out to help improve the understanding of the new system, and lower the chance of problems and questions. These can be interactive devices or manual guidebooks, but must be simple and user-friendly.
 use a guided process in an application to create all or part of a solution 	Handbooks, guidebook, on-screen help, FAQ, contact system, and other manual and digital help pages can guide the user in the whole system or part of the systems.
 use system design tools to: better understand the system assist in explaining the operation of the new system document the new system 	 User system design tools to Better understand the system For users to better understand the system a storyboard is a more simple and user-friendly tool for the whole layout of the new system. Through it may not have the data flow of the data, a context diagram, will seem more of a complex but reliable method of gaining an easy and understandable knowledge of the system. Assist in explaining the operation of the new system. To explain the processes occurring the new system, a context diagram or data flow diagram is the most effective tools to show the flow data and how they are processed. Document the new system

	prevent the reoccurrence of the problems.
5. Implementing	
Students learn to:	Notes:

A journal or record can be kept to view the past feedbacks and problems that occurs and thus be used to guide the team to

 acquiring information technology and making it operational hardware software, customised or developed 	
 an implementation plan that details: participant training the method for conversion parallel conversion direct conversion phased conversion how the system will be tested conversion of data for the new system 	 Implementation plan requires a conversion where participants might have to adapt to the new change or suit the require technical skills. Participant Training: Participant training is the type of training involving the use of technology and people and their ability to be able to interact. This training provide motivation for learners. They will be likely to understand the new change and attain the required skills for the implemented system. The method of conversion (4) Parallel conversion The new system and the old work simultaneously at the same time, until at one point the new may replace the new once the participants are all trained. Participants may have trouble dealing with two system, providing them with double the workload. Used as the safest conversion where info would be loss if the new is damaged. Also, most expensive. Direct conversion The new system fully replaces the old system at a point of time. This means that participants are required to train in advanced. May be costlier if the new system isn't understandable to all. Phased conversion The new system is gradually implemented replacing the old over time. As the new system comes into action, it will run simultaneously with old, where the old will run as backup (for emergencies). This method is used when the system is still in development (agile method), where it is more manageable. Disadvantages is that some of the new implemented system may not be compatible with the old. Different from parallel, one section at a time is being replaced.

	 This is must deem successful by the response users and customer provide as feedback to ensure it suit the required operational environment. Minimises the risk of widespread of errors to the whole system if there was one. How the system will be tested The system must be test for many encounters of possible errors. Software like diagnostic program allow for the test of the system by the gathering of all possible feedbacks and decisions. Onsite test data is used to detect errors in the system. All the information processes are continually being tested. Conversion of data for the new system Implements the notion of an automated or manual process of data conversion. Also, addresses of the conversion of data will be accurate and the amount of time it will take for the conversion.
 the need for an operation manual detailing procedures participants 	 Operation Manual Sometime the users and participant will not fully understand the skill required to interact with the new system. The instalment of
follow when using the new system	an operational manual will provide answers and insights to better understand their knowledge about the system. They are easy to use and user friendly. They act as tutorials consisting of: Procedure of detailed steps for participants to follow The purpose of the whole concept Required skills and tasks Information about who and when and what performs the task provide updates of future possible implementation to the system

Stud	lents:	Notes:
	determine training needs arising from the creation of a new system	
	compare and contrast conversion methods	
	justify the selected conversion method for a given situation	
	convert from the old system to the new	
	implement the appropriate information technology	
	develop an implementation plan for the project	

6. Testing, evaluating and maintaining		
Students learn to:	Notes:	
 testing and evaluating the solution with test data such as volume data simulated data live data 	 Testing and evaluating requires constant monitoring of the system, to see if it meets the expectations, and reduce the minor errors encountered. It is an ongoing process that checks for technical and financial problems. If there is an upgrade or if the system doesn't seem to success in its performance, a new SDLC is produced. Volume data: This test of using large amount of dummy data or actual data is to test if the system can process the large amount of data requested. It allows for the project team to see if the system can deal with large amount of data and its performance under pressure. Measures the response time of when one request is activated and when 200 or 1000 request are activated. Simulated data:	
 checking to see that the original system requirements have been achieved 		

•	trialling and using the operation	
	manual	
•	reviewing the effect on users of the	
	information system, participants	
	and people within the environment	
•	modifying parts of the system	
	where problems are identified	

Students:	Notes:
 compare the new system to the old and evaluate whether the requirements have been met 	
 update system documentation 	