**Business Case**

**APC Smart Syllabus System**

**Asia Pacific College**

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**Date**

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# Executive Summary

The team, AlgoRhythm 2.0 at Asia Pacific College (APC) has identified a problem relating to the creation of a syllabus. The current process of creating a syllabus has been identified as time consuming and too much effort and inconsistencies relating to the relevance of resources, meaning it is not within the 5 years standard. To address these issues, the team proposes the implementation of a syllabus system that leverages artificial intelligence (AI) in creating the syllabus.

## Issue

The issue of the current syllabus creation process is inefficiency and inconsistency. Educators consume too much time and effort in creating their syllabi and resources used may even be irrelevant, not meeting the standard of 5 years.

## Anticipated Outcomes

The proposed syllabus system is expected to streamline the syllabus creation process, reducing both the time and effort creating a syllabus and increasing the consistency and quality of the syllabi enhancing the student’s learning experience. The expected end state of the project is a fully functional syllabus system with the help of AI in generating a syllabus and be widely used in APC by educators and higher ups that is involved in the process of approving the syllabus.

## Recommendation

The team recommends the development and implementation of the proposed syllabus system where the system will use AI to help create the syllabi. These include the outcomes, references and alike based on the content chosen by the professor. This approach will help address the identified business problem by making syllabus creation more efficient and effective

## Justification

Due to its potential in significantly improving the syllabus creation process compared to other alternatives. Using AI to help create a syllabus can optimize and enhance the quality of education at APC. The quantitative support for this project includes the expected reduction of time and effort and increase of the quality of output and its relevance.

# Business Case Analysis Team

**Carl Von Nicanor (Project Manager):** The project manager of the team, the one that oversees the entire project ensuring that the team is on track.

# Problem Definition

## Problem Statement

1. **Time and effort.** A common challenge that was faced from several interviews, which pertains to the time and effort of the educators, with the practical constraints on balancing between tight schedules and the need for a comprehensive syllabus.
2. **Accuracy of information.** The relevance of the information and data used in the syllabus, whether the 5-year standard, is vital for an effective learning experience for the student.

## Organizational Impact

The implementation of the intelligent syllabus system will bring significant changes to the organizational processes, tools, hardware and software at Asia Pacific College (APC).  
  
**Processes:** The current method of syllabus creation, which is currently time consuming, will be transformed into a more efficient process, wherein the system will help generate the course syllabus’s content this includes the outcomes, activities thereby reducing the time and effort required by educators.

**Tools:** The syllabus system will serve as a new tool for educators as it will provide a platform where educators can easily create a course syllabus with the help of AI.

**Hardware and Software:** The system will be a web-based application, thus requiring minimal changes to the existing hardware but the AI of the application would need the data of the library, these includes eBooks, pdf and alike for the AI to be fed with information and properly assist creating the syllabus.

**Roles:** Educators will transform from being a manual syllabus creator to reviewers and customizers of the generated syllabi. Program heads will have a more efficient way of reviewing and approving the created syllabi. Also, a new role may be introduced, a system administrator who is responsible for maintaining and updating the system, keeping it relevant and possibly fixing bugs.

## Technology Migration

The migration of the syllabus system will be phased to ensure minimal disruption to ongoing academic activities at APC.

**Implementation of New Technology:** Will only select group of educators to allow real-time feedback and adjustments before the release of the system. The system will also be hosted on a secure cloud platform to ensure its accessibility and scalability.

**Data Migration:** Data from the existing syllabus creation method will be migrated to the new system during the process. The data that will be transferred will be done manually to ensure its integrity.

**Technical Requirements:** Requires a modern web browser and a stable internet connection.

**Obstacles:** Educators transitioning from existing syllabi creation to the new one will be challenging as it is something new to them and should conduct proper procedure or method to teach how to use the new system.

# Project Overview

This section describes high-level information about Algorhythm’s APC Smart Syllabus System to include a description, goals and objectives, performance criteria, assumptions, constraints, and milestones. This section consolidates all project-specific information into one chapter and allows for an easy understanding of the project since the baseline business problem, impacts, and recommendations have already been established.

## Project Description

AlgoRhythm aims to integrate an intelligent syllabus system into APC's existing learning management platform. This web application will include standard syllabus features such as organizing course content, facilitating syllabus creation, editing, and archiving. Additionally, it will incorporate an artificial intelligence recommendation system drawing from APC's library resources and this feature will assist professors while crafting and refining syllabi.

AlgoRhythm will utilize Scrum methodology for efficient collaboration and progress tracking. Through stand-up meetings, they'll discuss tasks, issues, and progress. Sprints will be planned, executed, and reviewed regularly to ensure timely completion. Scrum's iterative approach will optimize their project management process, enhancing productivity.

## Goals and Objectives

The project aims to develop or to implement an efficient course syllabus system that effectively addresses the following challenges or factors encountered in creating a course syllabus with its possible content materials:

1. Create a system that would optimize the allocation of time and effort of educators to ensure the creation of a comprehensive syllabus.
2. Implement a mechanism to verify whether the information and data used in the syllabus is within the 5-year standard.

The success of this objective will be quantifiable through studies and interviews regarding the increase of relevance of syllabus content assessed through course evaluations. This objective is attainable given the resources and knowledge of everyone and can be accomplished within the school’s constraints. Addressing these challenges aligns with the goal of improving the quality of education by making it more beneficial for both educators and students. Within a specified timeframe, this project will be developed and implemented with deadlines to ensure progress. The timeline to achieve the completion of such a feat will be set in accordance with the school’s academic calendar.

## Project Performance

This section describes the measures that will be used to gauge the project’s performance and outcomes as they relate to key resources, processes, or services.

**Web Performance:**

*Objective*: Ensure the web application runs smoothly and responds quickly to user actions.

*Approach*: Test the system under different loads to see how fast it handles tasks like creating syllabi and providing AI recommendations.

*Tools*: Use performance testing tools to simulate various user scenarios and measure response times.

*Goal*: Achieve fast response times for common tasks to enhance user experience.

**User Feedback:**

*Objective*: Gather input from users to improve the system's usability and effectiveness.

*Approach*: Conduct surveys or interviews to understand user experiences and preferences.

*Tools*: Utilize survey platforms or conduct face-to-face interviews to gather feedback.

*Goal*: Address user concerns and preferences to enhance satisfaction and usability of the system.

By focusing on these two objectives, you can ensure that your syllabus system meets both performance standards and user expectations, providing a valuable and efficient tool for professors and students alike.

## Project Assumptions

The following are the main assumptions for the Smart Syllabus System:

1. Assume that users, including professors and students, will readily adopt and engage with the syllabus system, using its features such as creating, editing, and archiving syllabi, as well as using the AI recommendation system for accessing library resources.
2. Assume that the integration of the AI recommendation system with the syllabus system will proceed smoothly without significant technical challenges. This includes the integration with APC's library resources and compatibility with the existing infrastructure.
3. Assume that the performance of the web application, including response times for creating, editing, and archiving syllabi, as well as the accuracy and speed of the AI recommendation system, will meet or exceed predefined performance goals, enhancing user satisfaction and productivity.

## Project Constraints

The following are the constraints for the production of the project:

* Limited time frame for development, testing, and deployment due to academic deadlines or other project commitments.
* Limited access to hardware resources for testing and hosting the web application, possibly requiring the use of cost-effective solutions or cloud services.
* Dependence on external documentation, tutorials, or online resources for guidance and troubleshooting during development.
* Constraints on the customization and flexibility of chosen frameworks, requiring adherence to their conventions and limitations during development.

## Major Project Milestones

The following are the major project milestones that will guide or have guided AlgoRhythm in the development of the project:

* Define project objectives, scope, and requirements, conduct stakeholder meetings to gather input and establish priorities, and create a project plan outlining timelines, resources, and deliverables.
* Presented project deliverables including documentation and a prototype to assist the team in conceptualizing the project and enhancing alignment with the client's needs.
* Develop the syllabus system features, including creating, editing, and archiving syllabi functionality and integrate the AI recommendation system with the syllabus system.
* Deploy the syllabus system to production environment, ensuring a smooth transition from development to live environment and monitor system performance and address any post-deployment issues to ensure a successful rollout.

# Strategic Alignment

Our project is made with the strategic framework of the school, aligning with its educational objectives and vision. By developing a smart syllabus system integrated with an AI recommendation system, we aim to enhance the learning experience for both professors and students. Our system facilitates syllabus creation, editing, and archiving, making administrative tasks flow smoothly, and allowing professors to focus more on delivering instruction for the students. Additionally, the AI recommendation system supplements this process by providing relevant references from the school's library resources, enhancing course content and encouraging more understanding of the subject matter. Through collaboration with stakeholders and continuous feedback loops, we ensure that our project remains in sync with the school's needs and priorities.

# Cost Benefit Analysis

A cost-benefit analysis is needed for APC’s Smart Syllabus System since it provides an evaluation of the project’s potential outcomes. By assessing its costs and benefits, the analysis enables AlgoRhythm to make informed decisions regarding the resources to be used, the financial budget and the project priorities. The primary benefit of the syllabus system project is the enhancement of the teaching and learning experience within the school community by saving time for the professors through the AI recommendation system with the help of the library’s resources.

Benefits:

1. The syllabus system streamlines administrative tasks such as syllabus creation, editing, and archiving, saving time for professors and administrators.
2. By providing AI-based recommendations from APC’s library resources, the system enhances productivity in course planning and syllabus development.
3. The AI recommendation system provides students with access to relevant references from the school's library resources.

Costs:

1. Costs associated with setting up and maintaining servers and databases required for hosting the web application.
2. Fees for using third-party software, frameworks, or libraries necessary for development.
3. Ongoing maintenance and updates to the AI model to ensure its continued effectiveness and relevance over time.

# Alternatives Analysis

The alternative analysis for AlgoRhythm’s Smart Syllabus System are as follows:

1. **Manual Syllabus Management**:

Pros: Low initial cost, simple to implement, no reliance on technology.

Cons: Time-consuming and labor-intensive for professors, and it is prone to errors, and inconsistencies. It also lacks scalability.

1. **Open-Source LMS Platforms**:

Pros: Free or low-cost, customizable to school's specific needs, active community support and development.

Cons: Requires technical expertise for setup and customization, ongoing maintenance and support needed, and it may lack certain advanced features.

1. **Outsourced Development**:

Pros: Access to specialized expertise in software development, potentially faster implementation timeline.

Cons: High development costs, limited control over the project, potential communication and coordination challenges with external developers.

# Approvals

The following are the key stakeholders in approving the project:

1. The department heads within APC are responsible for the development and management of their specific academic departments. Therefore, their approval is needed to ensure that the syllabus system meets the specific needs and requirements of each department.
2. Since the project involves integration with APC’s library resources, the library administrators’ approval will be necessary to ensure access to library databases and to comply with their policies.
3. Faculty members who will use the syllabus system are important stakeholders whose input and support are crucial for project approval.

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