

Assessment Specification

Module Details

Module Code	MDF03
Module Title	Study Group Project
Module Leader	Prof Emmanuel Merchan
Module Tutors	Prof Dmitry Pavlyuk, Prof Aleksandr Grakovski, Associate Prof Nadezda Spiridovska Associate Prof Samuel Moveh
Year	2023-2024
Component/Element Number	A1
Total number of assessments for this module	3
Weighting	25%
Total Assignment Time	-
Element Description	<p>Element A1.1 – Reflective The individual reflective report captures and summarises the learning of this part of the Module</p> <p>Element A1.2 – Project Proposal The project proposal provides an overview of the team's planned project for the second phase.</p>

Dates

Date issued to students	15/02/2024
Date to be returned to students	-
Submission Date	11/03/2024
Submission Place	Moodle
Submission Time	17:00h
Submission Notes	-

Feedback

Feedback provision will be	Feedback will be provided in the Moodle environment
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Section 1: Overview of Assessment

This assignment assesses the following module learning outcomes:

This is worth **25%** of the module marks.

Module Learning Outcomes	Reference
Demonstrate comprehensive understanding of core research methods and scientific writing conventions (A1, A3)	MO1
Apply research techniques and critical thinking skills in an applied engineering project (A1, A3)	MO2
Demonstrate ability to collaborate effectively in an interdisciplinary research team using agile methods(A2, A3)	MO3
Develop self-reflective ability to evaluate research competencies and translate skills to practice (A1, A3)	MO4
Effectively communicate research and findings through professional written and oral presentations (A2, A3)	MO5

There are two submission points: individual reflective report and group project proposal

- **All Students must submit the individual reflective report**
- **One Student per Team should submit to the group project proposal**

If you have questions about the assignment, **ask your course leader.**

Section 2: Task Specification

The individual reflective report captures and summarises the learning of the first phase of the module - a thorough review of module learning materials, learning set blogs, and good team discussion, project choice and planning will help to provide the material you will need.

The project proposal must provide a detailed team's planned project activities to achieve the project's objective.

YOU SHOULD NOT EXPECT TO GET ANY REMINDERS FROM TUTORS ABOUT ANY OF THESE RESPONSIBILITIES OR DEADLINES

Section 3: Deliverables

#	Tasks	Points	Submission date	Submission Place
1.1	<p>Write a reflective summary (maximum 500 words) highlighting your key learnings from the research methods course and how they relate to your project goals. Concisely synthesize insights focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Research Developments: What new technical knowledge or skills did you gain that could advance project outcomes? How will they shape your approach? (e.g. data analysis methods, academic writing, communicating science) · Process Improvements: What useful project management, collaboration, or problem-solving principles from the course could be applied to boost team performance? · Skill Applications: How will you directly apply specific research techniques and best practices covered in the sessions? How will they help achieve project objectives? · Learning Alignments: How do your biggest personal takeaways connect to broader program outcomes and long-term research competence building? <p>While you need not cover everything, connect 2-3 of your most significant learnings to actual implementations or recommendations for your team and topic. The objective is to succinctly relate your major individual growth areas to collective project progress goals, by extracting actionable findings.</p>	10	11-March-2024	Moodle
1.2	<p>Develop a comprehensive project proposal (1000 words $\pm 10\%$) outlining your team's technical approach and work plan. The proposal must include:</p> <p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem definition and rationale, including applicable background research <p>Project Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-defined objectives and project boundaries <p>Technical Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed descriptions of methodology with justifications grounded in literature <p>Work Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakdown of key tasks/activities needed to achieve milestones with a general 12-week timeline <p>Project Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for team collaboration, progress tracking, risk mitigation, and version control <p>Supplemental Materials (appendices)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline visualization (e.g. GANTT chart) • Online workspace links demonstrating PM approach • Annotated research bibliography <p>References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use proper academic conventions to cite all sources <p>The proposal body text has a strict 1000 word length limit ($\pm 10\%$). Additional materials are excluded from this count but must relate clearly to main content. Review criteria will emphasize technical approach rigor, project scope clarity, and feasibility of work plans based on staffing and time. Share all supplementary materials publicly to enable grading.</p>	15	11-March-2024	Moodle
	TOTAL	25		

Section 4: Marking Criteria

T = team mark, I = Individual Mark

Criterion	Poor/Fail (<4)	Good (5-6)	Very Good / Merit (7-8)	Excellent / Distinction (9-10)
Individual reflective summary (Individual)	Vague, rambling and unclear/ unconvincing, copied from external sources, lacking variety or depth	Fair personal reflection though lacking a little in detail, personal touch, coherence, or relevance. Process recommendations present but perhaps overly idealistic/abstract	Good reflection and personalised summary of learning, though perhaps lacking a little incoherence or relevance. Some process goals though perhaps quite general	Very clear and genuine with high-quality reflection that effectively synthesises multiple topics into a coherent whole with high relevance to the module learning objectives. Actionable tool/method recommendations for team and personal working.
Project proposal (Team)	Evident lack of planning and collaboration. Unrealistic scope, lacking / poor objectives. Wholly derivative or lacking a rationale or research foundation. The proposed tasks do not match the objectives	Quite limited planning is evident. Scope a little derivative though with some interesting aspects. Lacking research into the method and process. Tasks and activities are too general or vague, or not always a good match to the objectives.	Evidence of significant planning and team collaboration. Good scope perhaps requiring some refinement. Research into related work. Project tasks and timeline are generally realistic and achievable	Substantial planning, collaboration and discussion are evident. Clear and achievable scope with roles and the process clearly delineated. Existing related work referenced. Objectives clear and SMART. Tasks and activities fit objectives. Project management: process both realistic and well-understood / researched

Section 5: Feedback mechanisms

Feedback in Moodle environment.

Appendices and Additional Information

None.