

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies

BCIS207 Enterprise Solutions Deployment

Semester Two 2023



Assessment One – Research Report

Due: 5pm, Wednesday 6th September 2023

INSTRUCTIONS

You are to research information from expert sources and identify common factors in the failure of IT Projects and possible ways to avoid them.

Produce a report in MS Word showing your research findings including any standard report sections as needed (Introduction etc).

The report must be of a professional standard using the **reporting features as taught in previous classes**. All information must be **APA referenced**.

This assessment is worth 30% of the total marks for this course

Content: 80 marks, Presentation: including correct use of Word report features: 20 marks

Total Marks: 100

The length of each section is not prescribed; however, you are reminded that some qualities of an employable graduate are clarity, succinctness, focus, originality, imagination and logic.

We do not want to read essays! We want to see evidence of your ability to apply the concepts you have learned in class to the information you find in your research, and that you can communicate your ideas in the most effective and professional way. Use effective layout and design principles and lists, tables, images and diagrams to organise your information and illustrate your points wherever possible.

- You will be submitting both a hard copy and a soft copy of your report as a word document.
- Specific submission instructions will be advised.

You must reference/cite ALL articles and sources of information using APA Referencing version 7.

This is a research report so your opinions must be drawn from expert information sources and refer to specific data to back up your statements.

Project Failures: Classic Mistakes and Mitigation

IT projects often fail, sometimes spectacularly. Research and find ten (10) major **IT project** failures (e.g. news articles or case studies) from the year 2010 onwards.

According to R. Ryan Nelson's article "Infamous Failures, Classic Mistakes, and Best Practices (2007) IT Projects have common causes of failure. Research IT project failures and use the article to categorise them and advise the best practice that should have been followed.

Complete the following tasks:

1: Summarise each failed IT Project

Using the Table provided (*see Table 1*), summarise each project and identify the specific causes of their failure. Also state the financial costs, and the consequences to all parties involved. Ensure you reference your sources.

(20 marks)

2: Categorise the Classic Mistakes

Most causes of project failure can be grouped into people-related, process-related, product-related or technology-related mistakes. Categorise your failed projects into these groups (1 or more) and justify your choices.

(10 marks)

3: Mistakes versus Best Practice Matrix

Nelson wrote his article in 2007 so some of the ideas may be out of date. Using the matrix (Figure 3) from Nelson's article as a guide, do further research and create your own current version of the matrix of Classic Mistakes and the Best Practices that would have helped mitigate them. Also, briefly explain how you arrived at your best practice(s) solutions.

(30 marks)

4: Choice of Development Methodology

Identify and justify from the ten IT project failures identified in part 1 that may have been related to the wrong choice of development methodology, and identify a suitable development methodology that would have prevented those project failures.

(20 marks)

Table 1*Failed IT Project Summary Table*

Name of failed IT Project	Financial Costs	Causes of the project failure	Consequences of the project failure	List sources of your information