

Software Engineering Group Projects

The class will be divided into groups for a semester-long software development project. Students will be assigned groups. Students will give formal and informal presentations for requirements, status reports, and final report. Project ideas will be distributed to you or posted on my web site.

On occasion, students take advantage of group work, letting other members perform the bulk of the work while they reap the benefits of a good grade and can spend more time on other classes. This happens only occasionally, but it will not be tolerated in this course.

Three policies will help prevent this:

1. Twice during the semester, group members will be asked to fill out a detailed peer assessment for group members. The aggregate score (throwing out scores deviating more than 25% of the average) will become part of the student's grading score.

Merely attending group meetings isn't enough. Group members must be prepared for meetings, make good suggestions, perform their share of the work, and work well with other members. The grading criteria for peer assessment is as follows:

- a. Has the group member attended meetings?
 - b. Has the group member been prepared for group meetings? That is, was he/she aware of assignment requirements, performed her/his duties, able to speak intelligently about the project, etc.?
 - c. Has the group member participated positively in meetings?
 - d. Has the group member performed their share of the work, as assigned?
 - e. Has the group member been able to work well with others?
 - f. Rate the quality of this group member's input to group discussions and design issues.
 - g. Rate the overall value of this group member to the project.
 - h. Rate the level of initiative this group member has exhibited in the project.
 - i. Other comments?
2. The instructor will objectively evaluate group members with a grading rubric for different software development activities.
 3. Groups experiencing problems with a student should let me know there's a problem. Do this **early in the semester**. My experience is that group members wait until it's too late to take action. My objective is to ensure that each group member has the opportunity to succeed. I will handle the situation and ensure there is no animosity while resolving the problem. Usually, a brief discussion will clear the matter up entirely and without further problems.

Overall Project:

As stated on the syllabus, the project is worth 45% of the total grade. Completed projects earn a grade. Objective and subjective evaluation will be used to determine your individual grade on the project: You will get a percentage of the project grade. The objective grading of the project is broken down as follows:

Item	% of Project Grade
Requirements Document	15%
Project Plan	10%
Design Documents	20%
Implementation/Testing	40%
Manual/Delivered Package	10%
Final Presentation	5%

Subjective evaluation consists of

- First 8 weeks peer subjective evaluation (50%)
- Second 8 weeks peer subjective evaluation (50%)