

## PROJECT ABSTRACT

PROG1189 – Comprehensive Development Project is the only course offered in Term 7 of the Web and Mobile Application Development program prior to the Work Placement, and it requires the successful completion of all preceding course work. Students complete this course in the first four weeks of the term, and then proceed into a four week work placement before graduating from the program.

The comprehensive project involves the development of a Windows/Web multi-user intranet application. It is a two person team project, with the students selecting their team members. The project is a comprehensive review of the material delivered over the course of the program. As such, project marks are awarded for the planning process, as well as the design, functionality and workability of the final product. In an effort to duplicate “real world” development projects, there are no marks awarded for effort or for code production. Marks are awarded for meeting requirements/specifications.

The project is a team effort. However, the specifications specifically identify which elements of the system each member is responsible for. This allows for the team to work together to produce a cohesive product using common elements, while at the same time giving each member individual responsibility for specific elements of the system. Again this mimics the “real world” where many members make individual contributions to a whole. A significant advantage of this approach is that it allows each member’s contribution to be evaluated objectively.

The project is guided by the instructors in the Web and Mobile program as well as other instructors from the department. They act as both technical advisors and end-users for the project. As end-users, they clarify all the business rules and end-user processes that are to be incorporated into the system, and answer on-going questions from the students about how the user wants the system to work. As technical advisors, they guide the students through the analysis and design processes that were taught as part of the program. Students are required to produce appropriate documents and obtain approval as they move through the phases of development. Marks are awarded for how successful each team adheres to the planning and design processes.

The final product is evaluated during a technical presentation made by each team to a panel consisting of the three instructors. The product is evaluated for design, functionality and workability. During this presentation, the team is asked to identify, present, illustrate, explain and demonstrate various elements of the system, from design to functionality, from front end to back end. Team marks are awarded for the presence of common elements, while individual marks are awarded for each member’s own development effort. The focus of the technical presentation is on the inclusion of the project requirements and the workability of the product. Code and effort are not reviewed or evaluated except for specific elements which the instructors ask to see during the course of the technical presentation.

If a student does not attain a grade of 60% in the course, the student will be offered the opportunity to complete supplementary work to bring their final grade to a maximum of 60%. Due to the nature of this course, the supplementary is not a replacement in total for the mark received in the final project. It is an opportunity to improve selected areas of the project (as identified by the instructors) and have the adjusted marks for these areas blended into the original marking structure. The areas flagged for improvement, if done well, are sufficient to give the student ample opportunity to attain 60% while continuing in their OJT placement.