**Course**: MIS 342

**Task #8**: Individual Reflection Paper

**Due Date:** May 31, 2015 (by 6PM)

**Project:**The Con Notification System

**Student Name** **Professor Name**

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My role in the group was the project manager. I had to organize schedule, make sure that people understood the deliverables, assign work and check on people. It was difficult since everyone had a busy schedule. But it was hard. People didn’t care in many ways. Not doing the minimum work, no reading the entire group documents or waiting the last moments to do the work despite the deadline. After a while I started submitting my part last because I realized that nobody was reading or concerned about the consistency or the documents or will submit the work very late .

What I liked the most about the project was the ability to talk to the client and get a better understanding of how system analysis work in real life. I was very interesting and useful to apply things learned in class and adapt them to the real world. What I liked the least was the fact that we could not go through and implement the system. It is an 11 weeks course so I know it would be difficult to so.

My first greatest challenge was to detach myself from my computer science background. The idea of system analysis is to find the best system that fits the user’s needs, finance and timeframe.For example, I was tempted to program the system but I had to look back and realize that for such a critical system, it is better to look for a better and low risk alternative.

The second greatest challenge was dealing with group members. I had a hard time with the quality of the work. Many of our deliverables use references from the book so we always have templates to use. However, some people didn’t bother read the instructions or put a little of effort to do the minimum work. Also, some would wait until the last moment to submit the work.

The most useful skills I learnt from this group projects are managing people and deadline. People won’t do anything unless they have something they will get in exchange(Grades in this case). Also, You have to expect that some people won’t follow or respect deadlines so you have to adjust or make them respect it. I learnt to better communicate, motivate people and set better deadlines.

There are 3 things I can suggest the team members to do. The first one is to fully understand the project since the start. It is really difficult later if you don’t know what you want to do or have a clear ideas of the deliverables. Ask the different sources until you are sure you understand it. Don’t wait for things you can do. Very often, I had people telling me they won’t start until I divide the work or we meet yet they haven’t read the chapters or understood what is needed to do. It is pointless to go to meeting unprepared since you will have no ideas of what is going on. If you wait until the work is assigned, you waste time you could have used to read the materials and get a better understanding. The last one is get involved. It might be a class but you might end up doing this in your life and you are paying for this. Just because you feel like you won’t fail the class does not mean you should try your best in it. Time is an issue for everyone.

I personally met my individual goal. As a computer science major, I wanted to better understand the processes that lead to the implementation of new system of software. Now I can actually see the bigger picture, how important my job will be and how important end users feedback are important. I also realized why we are asked to spend so much time designing diagrams before actually coding. I also understand now how important it is to have people motivated on the project and how much it can impact it performances.