

Reflection

The most important things I learnt:

In this course, I learned a lot about database design, which is essential for managing data effectively. I also gained valuable skills in project management. I learned to use new tools like Confluence and Jira, which are very helpful for organizing and tracking projects. Additionally, I improved my knowledge of SQL, which is important for working with databases. Overall, I feel I gained the key skills and knowledge I expected from this course.

The things that helped me most were:

- My tutor: My tutor was very supportive and helped me understand the difficult concepts in the course. Their guidance made studying much easier and more effective.
- My group members: Collaborating with my group members was incredibly beneficial. We discussed the course material and exchanged answers, which helped us learn from each other and understand the topics better.
- Study videos from LinkedIn: The study videos from LinkedIn were very informative and well-structured. They provided clear explanations and practical examples that made the learning process more engaging and easier to follow.

I found the following topics particularly challenging:

- Database indexing: Understanding how to use indexes in a database to make searches faster was tricky and complicated.
- User use case scenarios: It was hard to think of all the different ways users might use the system and come up with solutions for each situation.
- Database normalization: Learning how to organize data in a database to avoid duplication and keep it efficient was difficult to grasp.

I found the following topics particularly interesting:

- Knowledge about SQL statements: Learning how to write and use SQL statements to interact with databases was fascinating. It was satisfying to see how these commands could retrieve, update, and manage data efficiently.
- Knowledge about database normalization: Although it was hard and challenging, understanding database normalization was very interesting. It showed how to organize data properly to reduce redundancy and improve data integrity.

I feel I learnt these topics, concepts, and/or tools really well:

- Database normalization: Despite its complexity, I managed to understand and apply the principles of database normalization effectively. This helped me organize data efficiently, reduce redundancy, and maintain data integrity.
- SQL statements: I became proficient in writing and using SQL statements to interact with databases. This included tasks such as retrieving, updating, and managing data, which I found both interesting and rewarding.

I still need to work on the following areas:

- Knowledge about database indexing: Understanding how to use indexes in a database remains a challenge for me. It often causes confusion, as I find it difficult to grasp how indexing works to optimize search performance and manage data efficiently.

My progress in this unit was ...:

I managed my time effectively and submitted all assignments on time, even with a hectic schedule. This required careful planning and prioritization of tasks to ensure I stayed on track.

Despite the challenges, such as balancing coursework with other responsibilities, I maintained a consistent work ethic and stayed organized throughout the unit.

This unit will help me in the future:

Learning deeply about database design and structure is essential for a software developer. The knowledge and skills I gained, such as understanding database normalization, writing SQL statements, and using tools like Confluence and Jira, are crucial for developing efficient and well-structured software applications. These skills will be invaluable in my future studies and career, allowing me to design and manage databases effectively, which is a key component of most software projects.

If I did this unit again I would do the following things differently:

While I was satisfied with my database design, I recognize that it was still too simple and had some illogical elements. Next time, I would challenge myself to design a more intricate database structure with better logic and organization. This would involve deeper planning and a more thorough understanding of the relationships between different data elements, ensuring a more robust and efficient design. By doing this, I can enhance my problem-solving skills and better prepare myself for real-world applications.

Other...:

I found that explaining concepts to my friends who were struggling helped solidify my own understanding. Teaching others not only reinforced my knowledge but also improved my communication skills. Besides, I supplemented my learning by exploring additional resources outside of the course material. Platforms like YouTube provided alternative explanations and practical examples that enhanced my comprehension of complex topics. This initiative allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter and broaden my perspective beyond the classroom.

Self-Assessment

Contributing to the Team's Work

Contributing to the Team's Work is defined as helping the team achieve its goals or objectives by completing the assigned tasks. Your behaviours influence the quality and quantity of your contribution to the team.

My work quality is consistently high, often exceeding expectations. I make significant contributions that enhance the team's work, demonstrating a thorough understanding of tasks and a commitment to excellence. Moreover, I actively support teammates facing difficulties, fostering a collaborative environment that contributes to the team's overall success.

Interacting with Teammates

Interacting with Teammates is defined as providing positive interactions within the team that contribute to a supportive environment. Talking during a meeting is an important interaction. But it's important to consider how and when you say things and when you should stop talking and listen to others. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

I talk and listen to my teammates a lot, and we get along well. I always show interest in what they say and make sure we all understand each other. I encourage them and ask for their opinions to make our teamwork better. By working together like this, we create a positive and friendly atmosphere in our team. Overall, my interactions with team members contribute to a positive and cohesive team dynamic.

Keeping the Team on Track

Keeping a team on track involves efforts to progress toward achieving the team's goals. The following describes different levels of characteristics that may happen on your team work.

I consistently meet deadlines and actively monitor the team's progress to ensure we stay on track. If I notice any teammates needing assistance, I offer my help to keep everyone moving forward together. Additionally, I provide specific, timely, and constructive feedback to my teammates, helping guide our progress and improve our overall performance. By taking these actions, I contribute to maintaining a productive and goal-oriented atmosphere within the team.

Expecting Quality

Expecting quality focuses on expressing the beliefs that the team is capable of quality work and encouraging the team to strive for quality. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

I consistently motivate my team to produce excellent work, especially when deadlines approach. I emphasize the importance of giving our best effort, reminding them that this learning is valuable for our future beyond just grades. I firmly believe in the talents of my team members, fostering a culture where we all strive for excellence in our work.

Having related knowledge, skills and abilities

Knowledge skills and abilities or KSA's are knowing what you need to know, knowing how to do what you need to do, and having the capabilities you need to do the work of the team. Effective team members need to have or learn the necessary KSA's for their assigned tasks and should be prepared to perform other roles if needed.

I dedicate myself to understanding new concepts in databases, investing time in research and late-night efforts to ensure our work is completed with excellence. I continuously seek to enhance our team's performance by acquiring new knowledge and skills. Moreover, I am always available to fulfill any role within the team, demonstrating flexibility and readiness to contribute effectively to our collective goals.

Did you participate in a process of performance improvement of a teammate?

Yes, I actively participated in improving a teammate's performance by assisting them in connecting their PHP code to a database. By providing guidance and support, I helped enhance their understanding and capability to integrate database functionality into their work. This collaborative effort contributed to improving their performance within the team, fostering a more efficient and effective workflow.

Assessment of teammate [Jaanane Catherine Mahadevan]

Contributing to the Team's Work

Contributing to the Team's Work is defined as helping the team achieve its goals or objectives by completing the assigned tasks. Your behaviours influence the quality and quantity of your contribution to the team.

It appears Jaanane contributes significantly to the team's work, taking on a leadership role. By doing more or higher-quality work than expected, she sets a positive example for the team. Her important contributions likely improve the team's overall work quality, and as a leader, she may also help teammates who are having difficulty completing their tasks. Overall, her proactive involvement and leadership positively influence the team's progress and success. Her contribution is high.

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As the team leader, Jaanane maintains excellent interactions with all members. She values their ideas, keeps everyone informed, and fosters a positive atmosphere by providing encouragement and enthusiasm. Additionally, she seeks feedback from teammates, demonstrating a collaborative approach to improving team performance. Her interaction is high.

Keeping the Team on Track

Keeping a team on track involves efforts to progress toward achieving the team's goals. The following describes different levels of characteristics that may happen on your team work.

As the team leader, Jaanane effectively keeps the team on track by closely monitoring team progress and ensuring that all members are making appropriate advancements toward our goals. Her proactive approach involves providing specific, timely, and constructive feedback to teammates. Jaanane is commitment to keeping us focused and aligned with our objectives is of a high standard.

Expecting Quality

Expecting quality focuses on expressing the beliefs that the team is capable of quality work and encouraging the team to strive for quality. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

Jaanane consistently demonstrates a high level of expectation for quality within the team. She sets a high standard for quality within the team, motivating everyone to excel and ensuring that our work consistently meets outstanding standards.

Having related knowledge, skills and abilities

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Jaanane consistently demonstrates high levels of knowledge, skills, and abilities within the team. She grasps new concepts quickly and produces work of exceptional quality. Additionally, she readily assists other team members when needed, showcasing her ability to perform various roles effectively. Overall, Jaanane is proficiency, willingness to learn, and supportiveness significantly contribute to the team's success.

Assessment of teammate [Inyoung Kim]

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Kim initially contributed to the project, but her involvement decreased when it came to the database aspect. Despite this, she fulfilled her commitments and completed assignments on time. While she did not make significant contributions to the database work, she still helped teammates when it was easy or important. Overall, her contributions were moderate, so I rated her as medium.

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Kim excels in interacting with team members, I rated her as high. She likely fosters a friendly and approachable atmosphere, making it easy for team members to communicate with her. Her positive attitude and willingness to engage with others contribute to a supportive team environment. Overall, her interpersonal skills positively impact team dynamics.

Keeping the Team on Track

Keeping a team on track involves efforts to progress toward achieving the team's goals. The following describes different levels of characteristics that may happen on your team work.

Kim excels in keeping the team on track, I rated her as high in this aspect as well. As a proactive team member, she likely monitors progress effectively, ensuring tasks are completed on time and the team stays focused on its goals. Her organizational skills likely contribute to the overall success and productivity of the team.

Expecting Quality

Expecting quality focuses on expressing the beliefs that the team is capable of quality work and encouraging the team to strive for quality. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

Kim consistently delivers good-quality work, earning her a high rating. She demonstrates attention to detail and a commitment to excellence in her tasks, contributing positively to the team's work.

Having related knowledge, skills and abilities

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Kim's quick grasp of concepts earns her a high rating in this aspect too. Her sharp intellect allows her to understand complex ideas swiftly, facilitating efficient problem-solving and decision-making processes within the team. Overall, her intelligence greatly benefits our work.

Assessment of teammate [Vu Duc Tran]

Contributing to the Team's Work

Contributing to the Team's Work is defined as helping the team achieve its goals or objectives by completing the assigned tasks. Your behaviours influence the quality and quantity of your contribution to the team.

At first, Vu Duc Tran did his fair share of work for the team, but later on, he seemed to lose some motivation and didn't contribute as much. He still completes his tasks okay and on time, but he's not as helpful to teammates as before. When we have done most of the work, Vu Duc Tran jumps in and claims to have contributed. For example, for the website, he just grabbed random HTML and CSS from the internet and handed it to us. The website did not even connect to the database and lacked any functionality. That is why I gave him a medium rating.

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Vu Duc Tran has demonstrated a low level of interaction with teammates. He frequently makes excuses for missing deadlines and shows little concern for his responsibilities during the website development process. When I completed my tasks, he became upset and blamed me for not informing him, despite his own lack of engagement. He even self-admitted that all the CSS and HTML in my work is his work, which is not true at all. He only contributed a very small part on the website and that part is not even done by himself, after that he just stood up and said all of the CSS and HTML in my page is his effort. His behaviour disrupts team progress and creates a negative working environment.

Keeping the Team on Track

Keeping a team on track involves efforts to progress toward achieving the team's goals. The following describes different levels of characteristics that may happen on your team work.

Vu Duc Tran has shown a low level of keeping the team on track. He often misses Wednesday workshops and even the tutorial on Tuesday, claiming his home is too far from school and he is too lazy to go. As a result, he doesn't know which part we are working on and doesn't bother to ask. This lack of involvement hinders our progress.

Expecting Quality

Expecting quality focuses on expressing the beliefs that the team is capable of quality work and encouraging the team to strive for quality. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

Vu Duc Tran participates in group work, but the quality of his contributions is not satisfactory. He encourages the team to produce work that meets all requirements, aiming for satisfactory outcomes to earn available rewards. While he believes the team can fulfill its responsibilities, his focus may be more on meeting basic requirements rather than striving for excellence. Therefore, I rated him as medium in this aspect.

Having related knowledge, skills and abilities

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Vu Duc Tran was rated medium in this aspect. He consistently copied work from the internet to complete his tasks and was never willing to help other teammates. He also lacked an

understanding of what to do when faced with a new problem. When I instructed him to complete at least his own page to fulfill his contribution, it took him two days to produce only a plain website with no additional functionality—just a basic website. To claim he had fulfilled his contribution, he asserted that he had completed the CSS and HTML for every page, but in reality, he had only contributed a very small part, which he did not even complete himself but copy it from ChatGPT. Overall, I believe he deserves a low rating in this aspect.

Assessment of teammate [Manh Dung Nguyen]

Contributing to the Team's Work

Contributing to the Team's Work is defined as helping the team achieve its goals or objectives by completing the assigned tasks. Your behaviours influence the quality and quantity of your contribution to the team.

Nguyen Manh Dung has demonstrated a low level of contribution to the team's work. He never contributes to the group work and only works with his friend, with Vu Duc Tran doing 90% of the work. Additionally, he never bothers to ask which part of the project we are currently working on. This lack of involvement justifies a low rating.

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Nguyen Manh Dung has demonstrated a low level of interaction with teammates. He typically interacts only with his friend, speaking in their native Vietnamese rather than in English, which limits communication with other team members. Additionally, he has caused misunderstandings in our group chat by conveying incorrect information to his friend, leading to conflicts within the team.

Keeping the Team on Track

Keeping a team on track involves efforts to progress toward achieving the team's goals. The following describes different levels of characteristics that may happen on your team work.

Nguyen Manh Dung has been rated low in keeping the team on track. He consistently lacks awareness of the team's current progress and shows no initiative inquiring about it. Despite my efforts to update modifications to the database on Confluence, he fails to check or stay informed. This lack of engagement hampers the team's ability to progress effectively towards achieving our goals.

Expecting Quality

Expecting quality focuses on expressing the beliefs that the team is capable of quality work and encouraging the team to strive for quality. The following are some different level behaviors that you may experience during teamwork.

Nguyen Manh Dung has a low rating in keeping the team on track. He often doesn't know what stage the group is at or bother to ask. Even when I update changes on Confluence, he doesn't check. In the final video assignment, he took responsibility for writing the script for our presentation, but the quality of the script is really bad. The whole script just written "read from slide, read from slide", and even the grammar is messy. This is the reason why I gave him low.

Having related knowledge, skills and abilities

Knowledge skills and abilities or KSA's are knowing what you need to know, knowing how to do what you need to do, and having the capabilities you need to do the work of the team. Effective team members need to have or learn the necessary KSA's for their assigned tasks and should be prepared to perform other roles if needed.

Nguyen Manh Dung has been rated low in having the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for his role in the team. He often relies on online sources for his work, simply copying and pasting code without understanding it. Despite creating website is counted as individual

contributions, he frequently asks for my help in troubleshooting code issues, unable to run it on his own computer. While I am willing to assist, his constant dependency on external sources and requests for code fixes have become a source of frustration.