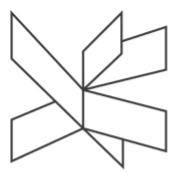
VIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ICT ENGINEERING



# VIA University College

# SEP3X-A19 Process Report

Dining with strangers.

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#### **Number of characters:**

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#### Deadline:

20/12/2019

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#### Introduction

The aim of this report is to outline and describe the different processes and methodologies, which the team has used during the making of the SEP3 project. Furthermore, it will take a deep dive into group dynamics and our personal reflections.

The report will start out by painting the picture of how this team came to be, by providing insight in the group formation process.

Afterwards, an analysis on cultural differences and personal strengths and weaknesses. The analysis will be based on Hoftede's six dimensions of culture and each of the group members personalities.

Aforementioned analysis will be used to profile possible group and personal conflicts and capitalize on potential strengths. The goal of this is to ensure a healthy and productive team environment, where every group member can thrive and provide the most value to the team.

After the extensive group description, a brief description of initiation of the project came to be. This is accomplished by reasoning for our choice of topic, how the group was formed, reflections our planning and what tools where used to do said planning.

Moreover, in the project description, we will describe the problem at hand, what our goals were and if they were realistic.

With the problem established, it's time to talk about how we accomplished what we did, by providing insight into our methods for following our planning, how they proved successful and what we would have done differently if we were to start all over again. This section will also cover our reflections on the results of the project and our handling of the risks we previously identified.

With all areas of the process covered, we will take a left turn and dive into our individual reflections. Here each member will reflect upon the group work and problem-based learning.

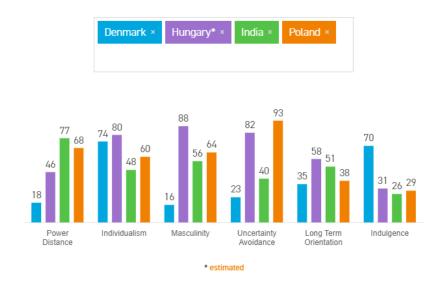
The report will be concluded by a list of **Do's** and **Don'ts** of group-based project work.

# **Group description**

#### Hofstede

Our team consist of four people coming from four different cultural backgrounds, one from Denmark, one from Hungary, one from India, and one from Poland.

To analyze the difference in cultural backgrounds and better understand how it may affect our team, we have conducted an analysis using the 6 dimensions of national culture model made by Hofstede Insights.



The diagram above, displays how the different national cultures scores on the 6 dimensions of national culture model. It is important to note, that the cultural dimensions represent behavioral traits that distinguish countries rather than individuals (National Culture - Hofstede Insights, 2019).

#### Power Distance:

#### **Summary**

Power distance indicates to which degree the cultural norm is to expect clear hierarchies in society. Societies with a high score tend to accept a structure knows what to do and whom they take orders from with no justification needed. Societies with a lower score does not accept this hierarchical structure and strive for the power to be evenly distributed, and a high need for justification when it comes to inequality of power.

#### Our team

In our team, every country but Denmark scored high or relatively high on power distance, signaling a clear need for clear leadership in the majority of the group.

#### Possible conflicts

The team could run into possible leadership issues where the Dane would be unhappy with the distribution of power if a clear leader where to be in control. Whereas the Hungarian, Indian or Pollack would be confused as to who is in power, when no clear hierarchy is in place.

#### Preventive measures

A leader is selected by the group, providing the Dane with the justification for inequality and the Hungarian, Indian and Polack with a clearer structure of power.

#### Individualism

#### Summary

Societies that score high on individualism tend to care mostly for themselves and immediate families. Whereas Societies that score on the lower end, also called collectivism, prefer a small framework of friends or relatives that look after each other in exchange for loyalty.

#### Our team

In our team, Indian and Poland is somewhere in the middle between collectivism and individualism, however, Denmark and Hungary are scoring in the upper part of the spectrum, meaning they tend to be more individualistic.

#### Possible conflicts

No major conflicts can be identified, since the team is placed in the middle/upper part of the scale. However, there can be a small expectation from India's and Poland's side for the group to work collectively on some tasks, whereas Hungary and Denmark would expect to work individually.

#### Preventive measures.

Discuss within the group if a task must be worked on individually or collectively.

#### Masculinity

#### **Summary**

Masculine societies, those that score on the upper end of the scale, have higher preference for achievement, assertiveness and material rewards. These preferences make these societies competitive. Whereas feminine societies, prefer corporation, modesty, equality and quality of life.

#### Our team

In our team, Hungary scores at the stop of the spectrum, whereas India and Poland are somewhere in the middle, however, Denmark is all the way at the bottom.

#### Possible conflicts

There is a possibility of disagreements when it comes to how the team will function, due to the lopsided scores of our team's cultures. We have Hungary with a competitive spirit in the left corner, Denmark in the right corner, with India and Poland being referees.

#### *Preventive measures*

No preventive measures found.

#### **Uncertainty Avoidance**

#### **Summary**

Uncertainty avoidance indicates a society's degree to which the members feel comfortable or uncomfortable with uncertainty or obscurity. Countries scoring on the higher end tend to be uncomfortable with uncertainty and try to prevent it, whereas, countries scoring on the lower end tend to embrace it and let it happen. Uncertainty avoidance also express how cultures adapt to changes.

#### Our team

The team is divided between Denmark and Indian being more comfortable with uncertainty. However, Poland and Hungary are very uncomfortable with uncertainty.

#### Possible conflicts

It possible that half the group will be more laid back when it comes to preventing uncertainty within the group and group work. Which in turn will leave the other half uncomfortable due to the higher levels of uncertainty.

#### Preventive measures

Since being comfortable with uncertainty does not mean being uncomfortable with certainty, it would make sense to cater to a less uncertain environment where planning and structure is a top priority.

#### Long term orientation

#### **Summary**

Cultures that score high on long term orientation have a more pragmatic approach to life and encourage thrift. Cultures that score low on long term orientation are more conservative when it comes to traditions and norms.

#### Our team

Every culture of our team is very aligned when it comes to long term orientations, there's only small deviations in the scores.

#### Indulgence

#### **Summary**

Societies that score higher on the scope (indulgence) have little control over their desires and impulses. This means indulgent societies allow for free gratification. Moreover, societies that score lower on the scope (restraint) have higher control over their desires and impulses. This means they suppress gratification.

#### Our team

Both Hungary, India, and Poland score relatively low on the scope, however, Denmark is placed in the opposite end.

#### Possible conflicts

The Dane will be susceptible to give in to basic human desires, thus have a higher need for fun and enjoyment. Whereas the remaining members of the team will suppress those feelings. There will therefore be a gap between when some members of the team want to have fun, and the others wants to work. Furthermore, the Dane could become a distraction to the rest of the group if the temptation to join the fun no longer can be suppressed by the remaining team members.

#### Preventive measures

Have a clear distinction between when it is time to work and when it is time to play. Furthermore, communicate clearly if one does not feel like it is time for fun and enjoyment.

#### 16 personalities

With the diversity of our cultural backgrounds has been analyzed, it is time to make a more in-depth analysis of the personalities in the team. This analysis is conducted to gain a better insight to the behavior or individual group members and to spot possible conflicts in the way the team might function.

Our personalities have been tested with 16personalities.com.

16personalities five different personality aspects, which are:

#### Mind:

The mind aspect tells us something about how we interact with our surroundings. In this category we have Introverts(I) and Extraverts(E). (Mind: Introverted vs. Extraverted | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### *Introverts:*

People with this trait tend to be more reserved than their counterparts. This helps them pace themselves in life. Furthermore, introverts tend to be very introspective, and have a preference towards alone time, which allows them to be more focused and gain deeper insights.

However, this trait also means that introverted personalities have a hard time dealing with outside distractions such as noise, motion or flickering lights frustrating. Too much outside stimuli can easily unsettle them and drain their energy.

Introverts quickly run out of energy reserves if human factors are added to this sensitivity. (Mind: Introverted vs. Extraverted | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### Extraverts:

People with this trait are the opposites of introverts. They are interested in engaging with their environment, and they thrive on the feedback of the people and events in said environment.

They love exploring limits and seeing what the world has to offer. Moreover, they have no problem taking a leap of faith and relying on the world around them for validation.

Often extraverts become so dependent on social engagement that they will have a tough time being alone by themselves. This can lead to them trying to become the centre of attention at any cost.

However, when people with this trait work on something important to them, be in the life of business, advancements will come quickly.

Furthermore, whenever given a chance to lead, extraverts will grab the opportunity by the throat. (Mind: Introverted vs. Extraverted | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### Energy:

This personality trait assesses how people deal with the information given by the world around them. In this category we find Intuitive(N) and Observant(S) styles. (Energy: Intuitive vs. Observant | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### *Intuitive:*

Intuitive personalities prefer to use their imagination as they search for new ideas and possibilities in life. They spend a large amount of their time questioning, wondering and connecting the dots in the bigger picture of life, with a flair for the theoretical. Moreover, they often ponder future possibilities.

Due to all this pondering and questioning this trait is not the most practical since longer periods of time can pass while they allow their imagination to roam freely.

Intuitive people have no problem to step in whenever there is a need for innovation or a new angle on a project. (Energy: Intuitive vs. Observant | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### Observant:

This personality trait is mostly in touch with what is presently happening in front of them. Whenever they think about the future or past, they tend to both from the perspective of how they may influence the present.

Due to this way of viewing life, they focus mostly on acting and have a hard time focusing on things that are not tangible.

The biggest challenge when it comes to observants is; they tend to have a narrow perspective on things. This results in them neglecting a solution that may seem far reaching for something more obvious.

Overall however, people with this personality trait are very practical and hands-on. (Energy: Intuitive vs. Observant | 16Personalities, 2019)

#### Nature:

This personality trait describes how people value emotions or rationality more when making decisions. Here we have the Thinking(T) personality and the Feeling(F) personality (Nature: Thinking vs. Feeling | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Thinking:

Whenever a person with the thinking trait must decide on something, they lean on the objective information present in a given situation. When the information has been gathered, they will test possible alternatives against logic and reason for them to decide which decision is the most effective.

Thinking personalities often dismiss emotional responses, be their own or those of others. This is due to an integral discomfort with emotions, this is due to emotions deviation from a rational path, which thinkers' value highly.

Furthermore, they are not satisfied if something is not well thought out or executed poorly.

Lastly, thinking personalities tend to look at an idea and think "How does this help?" (Nature: Thinking vs. Feeling | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Feeling:

People with this trait tend to follow their hearts and emotions, sometimes without realizing that they are doing so. These personalities are caring and compassionate, making them a concerned group of people, which in turn can make them very protective of those they care about.

Aforementioned traits make them excessively concerned for others. This can easily lead to burn out, be it themselves of the people they care about if they become too involved.

Lastly, feeling personalities tend to look at an idea and think "Who does this help?" (Nature: Thinking vs. Feeling | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Tactics:

This personality trait assesses how one plan and deal with the options they have in life. Here we find Judging(J) and Prospecting(P) personality traits (Tactics: Judging vs. Prospecting | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Judging:

This personality trait feels most at rest when the road ahead of them is well-marked. This means that they would rather make a dozen backup plans, if it means they will not have to deal with uncertainty.

However, this need for structure is a preference and reality have ways of making even the most well-thought-out plans become obsolete. An overwhelming number of unforeseen events can leave people with this trait frustrated and stressed.

Lastly judging personalities have a well-developed work ethic, where they will put responsibilities above anything else. They thrive in an environment with rules, laws, and standards and they often prove too dependent on these measures (Tactics: Judging vs. Prospecting | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Prospecting:

This personality trait is comfortable in uncertain environments and welcome unexpected events, which may help them seize unexpected opportunities are they arise. This opportunism often leads to impulsive decision-making. However, they sometimes get overwhelmed by the options that the world has to offer.

Prospecting personalities often offer great help when it comes to creativity and productivity. This is due to their great ability to find and explore oceans of options to a problem (Tactics: Judging vs. Prospecting | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Identity:

Lastly, we have identity, this trait gauges how confident individuals are in our ability and decisions. In this category we find Assertive(-A) and Turbulent(-T) (Identity: Assertive vs. Turbulent | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Assertive:

Self-assured, even-tempered, and resistant to stress are traits that characterize this personality trait. Goals are in the centre of their attention and strive for successful results. They are not unnerved by nervousness on their road to accomplishment.

Problems are prone to arise if assertive individuals' confidence turns into overconfidence. This can make them run over problems or details that can delay their road to success. Overconfident or not, this personality trait often advances where others would not (Identity: Assertive vs. Turbulent | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Turbulent:

Success-driven, perfectionistic, and eager to improve as identifiers of the turbulent personality trait. Whatever self-doubts they may have in life are counterbalanced by achieving more. There is always a drive to push oneself in order to better oneself.

This cycle of self-doubt balanced with achievement can put turbulent personalities on a path with never ending criticism or regrets. This scenario can play out in two directions; a direction of betterment or a direction of demotivation.

Turbulent individuals have a flair for spotting small problems and acting on them before they develop into larger ones. In turn they scan for things that may go wrong instead of keeping their eyes locked on more important targets (Identity: Assertive vs. Turbulent | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Our personalities

Lau Ravn Nielsen

#### (INTP-A | Introverted - Intuitive - Thinking - Prospecting - Assertive)

#### Role – Analyst:

Analysts are driven to create and understand. They have a unique ability to switch between speculative thinking and solutions-oriented approaches to the problems at hand.

An analyst's biggest pitfall is the false sense of accomplishment that their intellect can give them.

They have an affection to the world of ideas as opposed to the reality of hard work. This makes them assume a critical role instead of participating. Thus, they are at risk of being outpaced by others who do the work at hand.

Analyst have a drive to learn and improve themselves, this trait combined with a sharp witty banter makes them good debate partners. Furthermore, they have a preference towards setting their own pace and are often energized when exercising their minds in private (Roles: Analysts | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Strategy – Confident Individualist:

The biggest identifier of confident individualists is their trust in themselves. This trait makes them embrace solitude to pursue interests or goals as opposed to seeking social activity.

Confident individualists are not much for outside motivation, they seek internal inspiration.

Furthermore, confident individualists have a utilitarian approach to life, as a result of this they are not easily drawn towards emotional drama. If a confident individualist were to be drawn into drama, they have no problem expressing their truth with little to no concern if it will cause friction.

Moreover, their opinions are like mountains, impossible to move, and they see little reason as to why they should convince others (Strategies: Confident Individualism | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Zuzanna and Támás Fekete

#### (INFP-T | Introverted - Intuitive - Feeling - Prospecting - Turbulent)

#### Role – Diplomat:

Diplomats are warm, caring and generous personalities. They truly shine when it comes to diplomacy and counselling. As a result of the aforementioned traits, diplomats tend to promote cooperation and harmony within a group. They only tolerate conflicts if it the result is positive change.

Diplomats puts a high value on understanding, and with a lifetime of personal introspection gives them insight into others' motivations.

Furthermore, diplomats are reluctant to make and carry out difficult decisions or plans lacking empathy, often they have a difficult time carrying out plans at all. This is because they find more satisfaction in self-exploration rather than mundane day-to-day tasks (Roles: Diplomats | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Strategy – Constant improvement:

Sensitive and contemplative are traits that represent the constant improvement role. Additionally, they enjoy having their own personal space and freedom. Furthermore, constant improvers tend to be very creative individuals.

Constant improvers share the two personality traits (Introversion and Turbulence) that are the most sensitive to their environment. As a result of this they tend to be reserved when dealing with new people or unfamiliar situations.

Due to their caution to new challenges, constant improvers can sometimes come across as if they have lost motivation. However, this tends to be due to a tendency to doubting oneself. Moreover, constant improvers are driven, but have an imperishable fear of failure.

It often takes peer approval and regular active encouragement for constant improvers to recognize their own personal virtues. Additionally, they benefit tremendously if team members are patient enough to get to know them (Strategies: Constant Improvement | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Dorcia Fiona Dinesh

#### (ENFJ-T | Extraverted - Intuitive - Feeling - Judging - Turbulent)

Role – Diplomat:

See the diplomat section under Zuzanna and Támás.

Strategy – Social engagement:

Social engagers tend to follow their natural instincts first and then think about it later. Furthermore, they happily engage with other people, and they are not content with living in their minds. Social engagers feed off of positive interactions.

Because they happily engage with the world, they often end up being the center of attention, be it in business or in more intimate environments.

Social engagers are prone to experience the highs and lows as they progress through life. This is a result of their conflicting traits of extraversion and turbulence. This personality trait can prove to be extremely competitive; they will measure themselves against peers and hope for recognition. However, suddenly they will retreat, avoid conflict and apologize for confrontations(Strategies: Social Engagement | 16Personalities, 2019).

#### Conflicts between personality traits and types:

#### Mind:

There will be an unspoken consensus to work alone, with most of the group being introverted. This will allow them to enjoy their focused alone time where they are in control of their environment. However, it is important to not neglect the extravert in the group.

Therefore, the team must find a strategy that allows for the introverts to thrive and for the extravert to thrive alongside them.

A solution to the conundrum could be to work together in more closed environments where there is space to retreat and work in solitude, but also space for the extravert to engage with the environment.

#### Energy:

Every group member shares the intuitive trait. Therefore, no possible conflicts should occur.

However, the lack of an observant personality in the group could make the more focused on "what if" instead of being hands-on and working, due to them letting their imagination have free reign.

#### Nature:

With the group predominantly having the feeling trait, there will be dissimilarities in how different members of the team makes decisions. This dissimilarity can be the course of heated discussions between the feelers and the thinker. However, it could prove an asset to look at both sides of the coin, as long as the idea is discussed and not the person who came up with the idea.

#### Tactic:

The team is mostly prospecting, so they are very flexible when it comes to dealing with uncertainty. However, there is a judging personality within the team. Conflicts are therefore prone to arise unless the team decided to adopt a more judging approach to the project. This involves more planning and clearer communication within the team during the project.

#### *Identity:*

The two identities do not necessarily clash with each other. However, possible conflicts can arise from the traits themselves. The assertive member could become too overconfident with the amount of work that could be done or become sloppy with tasks. Moreover, the turbulent personalities could get too caught up in endless criticism, small details, or regrets that demotivates them.

To ensure these scenarios does not happen, the team must keep a close eye on one another during the project and identify threats before they happen.

#### Roles:

There is plenty of diplomats in the group and a lonely analyst. However, no threats to the team can be identified, but if any were to arise there will be three diplomats to make sure to promote cooperation and harmony.

#### Strategy:

The largest identifiable conflict that could occur would be between Social Engagement and Confident Individualist. This is due to the social engager's need for positive interactions, whereas the confident individual prefers solitude. To solve this, the team should allow for the confident individualist to retreat and work remotely whenever needed.

Furthermore, the two constant improvers are at danger to themselves if they were to spiral into self-doubt. It is therefore crucial that the other team members keep an eye out for this self-sabotaging behavior. Moreover, like the confident individual these constant improvers prefer their personal space. However, if they tolerate social settings better if they are familiar with them.

#### Initiation

The group was formed by merging two groups together across classes. Before the decision to go on a joint venture together as a new team was made, the parties had met and talked about expectations and goals for the project at hand. When the stars aligned, the parties decided to group up with the allowance from the supervisors.

With the group formed, the project was initiated by the signing of a group contract. In the group contract we wrote down the group's expectations regarding behavior and deliverables, the group contract can be found in Process Appendix – Appendix A.

We originally wanted to create a software for planning and joining events. However, after extensive research we decided to focus on a smaller niche within event planning – Dining events. This was chosen due to the research done on loneliness in Denmark. During this research we discovered that one of the initiatives to combat loneliness in the past, had been dining with strangers. This initiative encouraged people to invite strangers, be it neighbors or random people on the street, to a meal. However, it is not always easy to ask a stranger to dinner. Which is why we set out to make it more accessible for people not only to invite people over for dinner, but also to join and find strangers to dine with.

During the initial phases of the project we our only tools of planning was a gantt chart outlining the project and the various deadlines provided by out supervisors, which can be found in Project Appendix – Appendix A – Project description.

However, during the later stages of the project we started using scrum with unified processes. Scrum and unified processes proved more valuable than the previous planning even though we struggled with the methodology at first. However, more on that later. Scrum was managed using Trello at first, but it was later replaced by Monday.com due to the higher customizability.

# Description

When drafting our project description and narrowing our problem domain we stumbled upon the pressing problem of loneliness in Denmark and the initiatives and things that could be done to combat it. However, research showed that a large number of Danes felt lonelier when they had no one to dine with. Thus, our problem was defined as:

"Loneliness is becoming a big problem in Denmark. Based on studies, Danes often feel lonely however, more Danes are susceptible to feel lonely when they have no one else to dine with."

With our problem at hand we formulated our goal for this project, which ended up being:

"To create a tool which helps people develop social bonds through dining events, which may benefit the mental health of the participants."

So, in essence, we wanted to be facilitators of dining events with strangers, we would have no control over the experience of the bonds the participants may or may not develop. Which was a very realistic goal, however not so testable unless made available to the public.

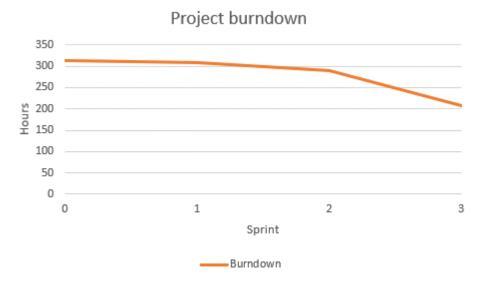
## **Project Execution**

For planning we have mostly used scrum in conjunction with AUP, however it has been hard following or at the very least, showcasing our use of AUP. This is due to our sprints being of such a short duration that it becomes hard to distinguish between the different AUP phases. So, in one day we could go through both construction and transition. Our scrum and AUP documentation can be found in Process Appendix – Appendix B.

AUP has therefore, not provided us with much value, other than serving as a reminder of how to work and what to work on when developing software.

However, scrum has proven itself valuable in providing us with structure and clarity of what to do. We regret not starting scrum before we did, and we cut scrum short because of our need to be more spontaneous with our work priorities and tasks during the last two weeks of the project.

During the three sprints that we did run, we managed to burn a decent amount of story points, 95 story points to be exact, out of 313:



Additionally, the reviews proved very valuable when it came to providing insight into what the other members of the team had been spending the sprint on. The same thing goes for the daily scrum meetings.

We do not think we would have chosen a different approach if we were to do SEP3 all over again, however we would start sprinting right after the project description has been made and we would have had a longer sprint duration.

We also used Git for our project, with the aid of bitbucket.org. We started out by creating a repository for each respective tier. Our reasoning for this is that every tier should be able to work as its own entity in a larger system, independent of the other tiers.

We didn't utilize the branching, and just committed to the master branch every time. It would, however, have proven more useful to use the branching mechanisms as a pointer to changes made in the system. Branches could also serve to avoid having faulty or buggy code out of the master branch.

We are overall satisfied with the work that we have delivered, however, there is a few mishaps here and there with implementations. One of such implementations is namely how we chose to make our socket protocol. There had been lots of discussion back and forth whether or not it was worth our energy to make

a socket protocol and in the end, we chose to implement it for one method, however, it was too late to make it fully functional. Additionally, a lot of data layer versions have been made throughout the project. We had a hard time making up our minds with how we wanted the data layer to be in terms of implementation.

We feel like we have put our all into this project and done the most of what we were able to do with the time we had.

We have not done much handling of project risks due to the arbitrariness of the risks we identified during the inception phase. We have, however, harvested great value from the analysis we did of our group in the group description above. It has proven especially valuable when it comes to understanding how each of the team members prefers to work. Which has resulted in a team environment where we could work on our own terms without much discussion. Additionally, cake every Wednesday has proven to be a great way of bonding within the group.

#### **Personal Reflections**

#### Lau

SEP3 has had its ups and down, it however, has never been so bad that a small slice of cake couldn't improve the situation.

We have been good utilizing personal strengths and covering for one another weaknesses. I cannot help but feel that this is due to the thorough analysis we did of the group and its members early in the project. Because of this I have a feeling that every member contributed satisfactorily. I however, do not feel like I contributed my maximum mainly due to chronic health problems and more acute sickness during the last two weeks of the project period.

We have not had to use the group contract outside of the weekly cake agreement, which is a sign of us getting along well as not only a team, but also a group of friends.

When it comes to project work, I've overseen analyzing, designing, writing and documenting a lot. If I weren't busy doing the aforementioned, I would be found helping whoever was in need of help, which most frequently was with the data layer.

The motivation of the group has varied a lot throughout the project. However, not more than normal I'd say. It's normal to get a little demotivated when you encounter hardships. But again, the group has proven great a motivating one another, even during the hardest and most stressful times.

For the next project I would probably try to convince my group members to bring cake every group meeting instead of every Wednesday.

#### Dorcia

This semester has been very interesting in terms of team work, knowledge and a lot of self-study. Personally, I found it quite difficult in the beginning of the semester to understand what was expected in SEP. Later on, it became easier as we approached the supervisors, we were more confident about what had to be done. This semester I was in a group with two new group mates from the X class and one of my old group mates. The group was formed because of mutual friends and similar interests in the idea of how we viewed SEP. We enjoyed having cake every Wednesday the whole semester and played Uno occasionally. When it came to doing project work, we were not a well organized group though we followed Scrum, it took sometime to get adjusted to it, but we did our tasks and worked as much as possible to achieve what we have. It has been difficult throughout the project group with a lot of stress for me personally. We had a lot of problems with the Tier testing and then we made it through those obstacles. To be honest, I am grateful that we worked together and helped each other through this SEP. I have learned a lot about myself as well as a person in a working environment which can sometimes be opportunistic or stressful. In short, the group had a few elements of everything and everyone's contribution mattered.

#### **Tamas**

As always dealing with problem-based learning can be challenging, since you must apply the knowledge what you've gained throughout the semester's classes. With this experience we can thoroughly understand what it means to use theoretical knowledge in action. I really enjoyed following this semesters group contract since we agreed on bringing cake to the project meetings, it was a really good idea hence eating together is an efficient way to get to know each other. In the end it was a little bit too much, though. Since SEP isn't individual, learning how to interact socially with one another was just as important as working, brainstorming and sharing information according to the project. Through this semester we learnt about each other's personality and expectations. Maybe we spent too much time on getting to know each other and we've become more of a group of friends than co-workers. However, it changed rapidly when we realized the need of work what had to be done during the project period. Like in all project with more than one person, we had some problems and achievements. Problems occurred mainly on tier 3. At the beginning of the project I made a bad call about the look of 3th tier which then was changed two-three times during the project period. Therefore, it took an enormous amount of time to maintain a stable connection between all tiers. Other than tier three the project work was manageable with some miner difficulties. While communication and the presence of group members were on the right place when we are talking about group work and project meetings, we started the project rather late compared to other groups. That put the group under pressure in the light of the deadline. We used Monday.com to keep track on whose working on what and SCRUM to create a customer friendly system with the needed criteria. If I have to name some parts of the project what I would like to do differently in the upcoming semester it probably would be about the brainstorming parts where If a member wants to do something on its own way, he/she has to debate about their ideas. If it turns out it worse than other options than talking it through and changing it could be beneficial to everyone. We should of course do everything more seriously from the beginning with every decisions, ideas and actions. Other than that, starting the project as early as possible could lower the weight from the group members shoulders. For me this semester was a warning to take everything more seriously and do your best even when you don't feel like it.

#### Zuzanna

Throughout the project development I have been mainly working with first tier programming. The task involved creating client application for user interface and find a solution to communicate with second tier. Our group decided on system architecture in an early stage of project. Based on it, the first tier was decided to be developed using .NET whereas the second tier implemented server in Java. I have decided to use Blazor framework to work with in the first tier since it was the most interactive of all researched frameworks. The main challenge concerning working with Blazor was the fact that the framework was released relatively recent and some of the references needed for project purposes had to be found outside of the scope of Microsoft Blazor documentation.

The biggest challenge this semester was to navigate among vast variety of solutions and frameworks and deciding which of them would be the most suitable for the system. Big part of the system development was spent on research, both in official documentations and tutorials but also blogs and forums.

The project demanded a lot of self-study from the group what may have caused the confusion to which approach to choose when developing our system. This might have been the cause why we were forced to re-design are architecture throughout the process, which made as struggling.

# Conclusion

	Do's	Don't
1		Stress
	Discuss different solutions	
2	Make small mock-ups for programs	Distract group members from group work
3	Explain the work done to other members	Not respecting group members
4	Implement more design patterns	Show up late
5	Help your group members	Ignore members

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