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Workshop 1

COS10025 – Technology in an Indigenous
context project

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Acknowledgement of Country

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, who are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Swinburne’s Australian campuses are located in Melbourne’s east and outer-east, and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We are honoured to recognise our connection to Wurundjeri Country, history, culture, and spirituality through these locations, and strive to ensure that we operate in a manner that respects and honours the Elders and Ancestors of these lands.

We also respectfully acknowledge Swinburne’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, students, alumni, partners and visitors.

We also acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of lands across Australia, their Elders, Ancestors, cultures, and heritage, and recognise the continuing sovereignties of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nations.

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Workshop 1

The aim of today's class is to set the scene for the semester, by starting to explore Indigenous culture in groups and thinking about teamwork.

Introductions

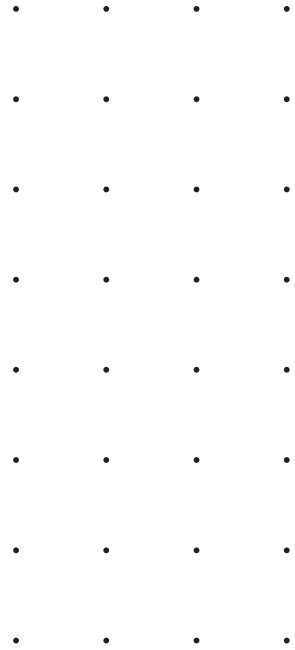
Activity 1: my cultural experience

Activity 2: teamwork experiences

Overview of project-based learning

The project

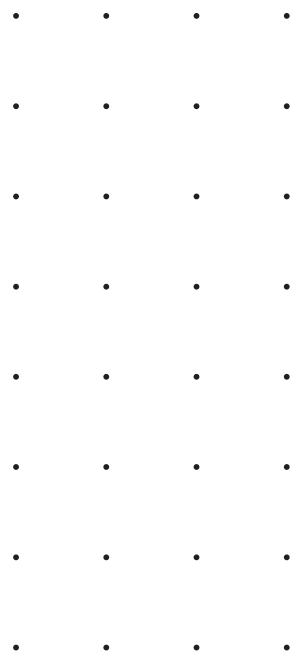
Activity 3: cultural terminology and language



Expectations for workshops

Each week we have a 2-hour workshop with multiple teams. This will consist of either guided activities or team-directed work.

- Read through the overview on Canvas beforehand so you know what to expect
- Bring a usable laptop or device and/or writing materials – turning up empty handed is not productive
- Do ask and clarify terms unfamiliar, or if you think the meaning here might be different
- Interactive, hands-on, team learning, a bit of fun
- It is crucial that you attend workshops in order to work effectively with your team – if you need to change classes this should be done by week 2.



Expectations in Workshop

Do:

1. Attend regularly with your team
2. Submit on time
3. Organise your time and don't leave things to deadlines
4. Communicate potential issues early to your facilitator
5. Get a medical certificate or follow the University special consideration process
6. Search/Research for information and knowledge gap

Don't:

1. Disappear for the semester
2. Not listen to assessment requirements, submit wrong work, complain about grades
3. Spend more time trying to get around plagiarism controls to have only to re-do it
4. Say you've been busy with other classes so please can I have an extension
5. We're not first-time students anymore, life does happen, but let's work together

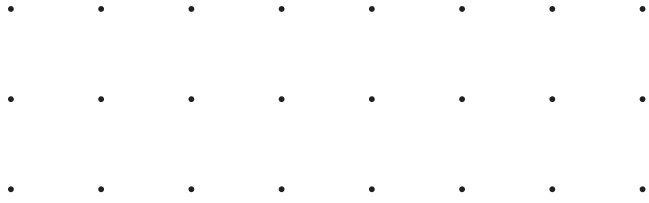
1st Activity

Aim : Find out / research about the culture and the country

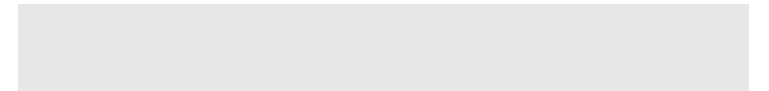
- Instructions :
1. What is your personal understanding of culture?
 2. What is professional cultural competency? And why is professional cultural competency a skill that is highly useful for engineers to develop?
 3. Looking back over your learning journey what was the most significant change in your personal understanding of Aboriginal culture? Try and think back to the events that influenced this change. What happened? Who was involved and why was it significant to you?
 4. Who were the traditional owners of the land on which you were born and/or grew up?
 5. Share your team findings.



Teamwork: 15-20 minutes



Teamwork



Teamwork Practices

Successful teams:

1. Agreed team goals and principles
2. Established team-member roles
3. A supportive environment in which to work
4. A common teamwork process
5. A plan for the work
6. A mutual team commitment to the goals, roles and plan
7. Open/free communication among all team members
8. The mutual respect and support of all team members



Key Roles – Team members

1. Liaising with the project facilitator and the unit convenor
2. Motivating team members
3. Organising and facilitating weekly team meetings
4. Cooperatively allocating tasks to team members
5. Leading the development of project tasks
6. Meeting minutes' taker (taking turns)
7. Sign your team agreement

Please check Teamwork Essentials here in Canvas –

Teamwork policies -

https://swinburne.instructure.com/courses/44367/pages/teamwork-essentials?module_item_id=2829264

Meeting minutes template -

https://swinburne.instructure.com/courses/44367/files/18486668?module_item_id=2829265

Teamwork Agreement -

https://swinburne.instructure.com/courses/44367/files/20066497?module_item_id=2992886

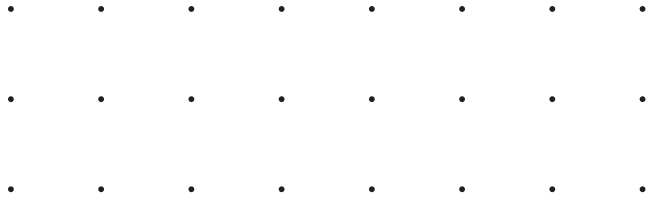
Activity 2

Aim : Find out what makes a project great-your experience

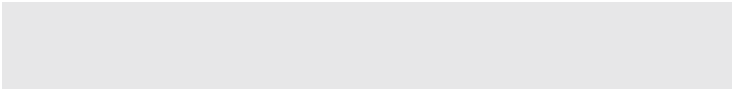
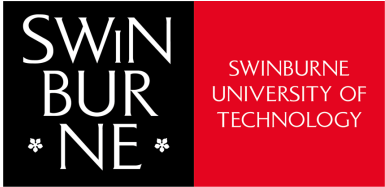
- Instructions :
1. Individually, recall a positive experience with a project. One that ended really well. Any type of project...professional, personal
 2. Individually, jot down key achievements, feelings, emotions on paper / post-it
 3. In teams, share and list everyone's points on whiteboard. Cluster similar points and identify themes. Add insights based on points shared
 4. Rank top or most commonly shared points.



Teamwork: 20 minutes



Break

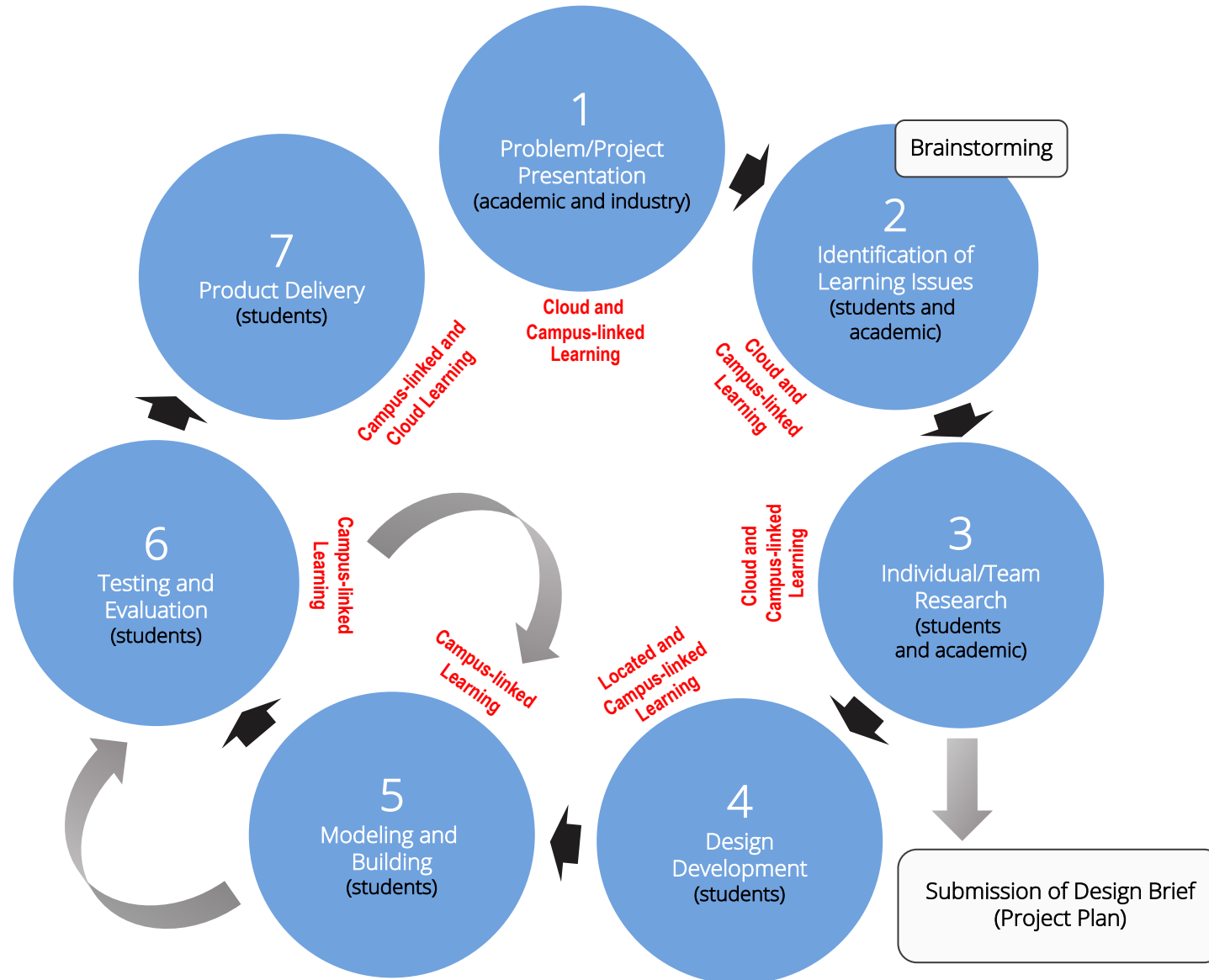


Characteristics of effective project

1. Interesting or engaging to students
2. Builds upon students' prior knowledge / experiences
3. Related to real-world
4. Able to generate multiple hypotheses
5. Challenging, with multiple possible solutions or multiple approaches to a solution
6. Requires team effort to solve
7. Aligned with desired learning outcomes
8. Connected to other modules / units

(Sockalingam & Schmidt, 2012)

Project-based Learning Process



This semester's project

Digital Connectivity Infrastructure for Remote Indigenous Communications

Since the late 1990s, there have been a succession of Australian Government programs aimed at providing IT facilities, internet access and training into remote Indigenous communities (RICs). In 2016, there was an estimated 798,365 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia, representing 3.3% of the total Australian population, with approximately 19% living in remote Indigenous communities and homelands.



This semester's project

Digital Connectivity Infrastructure for Remote Indigenous Communications

While remote communities differ in terms of size, population, distance from regional centres, services provided, and social, cultural, and historic influences, there are unique needs and challenges for many Indigenous Australians living in remote Australia. Many of these challenges are well known and documented, including: low socio-economic conditions; limited training and employment options, limited availability of key services (bank, library, hospital, post office, youth services, childcare, legal support); high costs of living (food, fuel, services), lack of available food (especially fresh fruit, vegetables and meats).



This semester's project

Digital Connectivity Infrastructure for Remote Indigenous Communications

There is range of factors that can significantly impact on the uptake and effectiveness of communication technologies and services. This project is focused on analysing current challenges, needs for communication technologies, and services for remote Indigenous communities around Australia. It also explores on user access, affordability, and digital literacy in relation to the communication infrastructure.



Project Facilitator role

1. Meeting regularly with the project team
2. Monitoring team progress against plan/milestones
3. Acting as a mentor throughout the project
4. Providing feedback on documents produced
5. Facilitating project outcomes
6. Participating in evaluation of the final presentation

3rd Activity

- Aim : Find out your Terminology and Language for effective communications (refer to Canvas week 1 module)
- Instructions :
 1. Why you need to understand the terminology and language?
 2. Why is terminology important for Indigenous Australian people/s?
 3. List out at least six cultural locations and township name where Indigenous Australian people/s (different communities) residing?
 4. Share your team findings?



Teamwork: 20 minutes

Next week

- Forming groups based on pre-workshop activity
- Brainstorming – brainstorm on project requirements and find significant issues of the project/problem