

CSC-40098 MSc Project - Evaluation Guidelines

Option 1: Research-focused Project

Specification of the Project (5%)

Introduces the research topic, outlines the research problem, and states the research objectives, questions, or hypotheses. Includes the significance of the research and its potential contributions.

Literature Review (15%)

Consists of a comprehensive review of existing literature (books, articles, journals, etc.) relevant to the research question. Identifies gaps in current knowledge, establish the context of the research, and justify the proposed study. Act on the feedback received from CSC40100.

Methodology (30%)

Details the research design, data collection methods, data analysis procedures, and any tools or techniques used. Also, it addresses any ethical considerations and limitations of your research methodology.

Results & Discussion (30%)

Objectively reports the data collected, often using tables, graphs, and charts. Interprets the findings, explaining how they address the research questions, their implications, and how they fit into the broader field.

Conclusion (5%)

Offers a concise summary of the findings and their implications. Revisits the research objectives or questions, discusses the significance of the findings, and may suggest areas for future research.

Structure and Presentation (10%)

Includes the organisation and layout of material; style (including spelling and grammar); use of material, bibliography, and citation. Appropriate use of appendices; evidence of understanding the process in terms of linkages between chapters, the flow of work. Appropriate referencing style. Clear video recording/demonstration.

Quality of Management (5%)

A proactive approach to the research project. Evidence of learning and development. Achievement of agreed milestones. Frequent contact with supervisor/tutor while being able to work independently at the same time.

Option 2: System Development-focused Project

Specification of the Project (5%)

Introduces the project topic, outlines the problem statements, and states the project objectives. It should also include the significance of the project and its potential contributions.

Literature Review (15%)

Consists of a comprehensive review of existing literature relevant to the project objectives. This could be in the form of a technical review and/or a prototyping review. Identify gaps/limitations in current software, systems, or methods, establish the context of the project, and justify the proposed study. Act on the feedback received from CSC40100.

Methodology (15%)

Details the software development methodology used (e.g., Agile, Scrum, Waterfall, etc.). Explains why this methodology was chosen, including its advantages and suitability for the project.

Requirements and Design (15%)

Details both the functional and non-functional requirements. It explains how these requirements were gathered and prioritised. Provides an overview of the system architecture and design. Delve into specific design elements, like database schema, user interface, algorithms, etc.

Implementation (15%)

Describes the process of translating the system design into a working model. Details the development environment, tools, and languages used. Discusses the implementation of key features and functionalities. Highlights any significant challenges faced during implementation. Explains the strategies or solutions employed to overcome these challenges. Discusses how changes and versions were managed.

Testing and Evaluation (15%)

Details the various testing methodologies used (e.g., unit testing, integration testing, system testing). Describes the test cases, scenarios, and the results of these tests. Discusses how issues and bugs were identified and resolved. Explains the criteria and methods used for system evaluation (e.g., user acceptance testing, performance evaluation). Includes user feedback, if applicable. Analyses the outcomes of both testing and evaluation.

Conclusion (5%)

Reiterates the objectives set out at the beginning of the project. Reflects on the effectiveness of the chosen software development methodology. Summarises the results of testing and evaluation, emphasising how well the system meets the requirements. Discusses how and to what extent these objectives were achieved. Suggests potential improvements or future work that could be done to extend the project.

Structure and Presentation (10%)

Organisation and layout of material; style including spelling and grammar; use of material, bibliography, and citation. Appropriate use of appendices; evidence of understanding the process in terms of linkages between chapters, the flow of work. Appropriate referencing style. Clear video recording/demonstration.

Quality of Management (5%)

A proactive approach to the research project. Evidence of learning and development. Achievement of agreed milestones. Frequent contact with supervisor/tutor while being able to work independently at the same time.