

Development Plan
ProgName

Team #, Team Name
Student 1 name
Student 2 name
Student 3 name
Student 4 name

Table 1: Revision History

Date	Developer(s)	Change
17 September 2025	Jeremy	Added 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
Date2	Name(s)	Description of changes
...

[Put your introductory blurb here. Often the blurb is a brief roadmap of what is contained in the report. —SS]

[Additional information on the development plan can be found in the [lecture slides](#). —SS]

1 Confidential Information?

[State whether your project has confidential information from industry, or not. If there is confidential information, point to the agreement you have in place. —SS]

[For most teams this section will just state that there is no confidential information to protect. —SS]

2 IP to Protect

There is no IP to protect for the project. The data provided is openly available to use. Likewise, our code will be open source. [State whether there is IP to protect. If there is, point to the agreement. All students who are working on a project that requires an IP agreement are also required to sign the “Intellectual Property Guide Acknowledgement.” —SS]

3 Copyright License

The software that we will use will be MIT. The License is linked titled LICENSE and is at the root directory of our repository. [What copyright license is your team adopting. Point to the license in your repo. —SS]

4 Team Meeting Plan

[How often will you meet? where? —SS]

[If the meeting is a physical location (not virtual), out of an abundance of caution for safety reasons you shouldn’t put the location online —SS]

[How often will you meet with your industry advisor? when? where? —SS]

[Will meetings be virtual? At least some meetings should likely be in-person. —SS]

[How will the meetings be structured? There should be a chair for all meetings. There should be an agenda for all meetings. —SS]

5 Team Communication Plan

Our team will primarily communicate using Microsoft Teams and text messaging for quick, day-to-day coordination. For interactions with the professors associ-

ated with our project, we will schedule weekly or ad hoc meetings as needed. Email will be our main channel for formal communication with faculty.

To manage and divide work efficiently, we are utilizing GitHub Issues and a Kanban board. GitHub Issues allow us to assign tasks, track progress, and facilitate transparent communication among team members. The Kanban board complements this by providing a clear visual representation of task status and workflow. This will support project planning and execution.

[Issues on GitHub should be part of your communication plan. —SS]

6 Team Member Roles

Roles

Tim - Team Leader Oversees members, helps assign tasks, and ensures deadlines are met.

Nathan - Administrator Manages documentation, project logistics, and resources.

Leo - Meeting Chair Organizes and leads team meetings, sets agendas, and keeps discussions on track.

Jeremy / Aidan - Software Specialists Assist with development tasks such as CI/CD setup, code reviews, general project support, and note taking.

[You should identify the types of roles you anticipate, like notetaker, leader, meeting chair, reviewer. Assigning specific people to those roles is not necessary at this stage. In a student team the role of the individuals will likely change throughout the year. —SS]

7 Workflow Plan

- How will you be using git, including branches, pull requests, etc.?

The team will use Git for version control. Branches will follow the convention: <type-of-work>/<issue-name>, where the types of work are:

- documentation
- feature
- bugfix

Issue name will follow the name of the issue you are working on.

For pull requests, GitHub Actions will compile the code and run checks. A reviewer will always be required. Once a branch is merged, it will be deleted.

- How will you be managing issues, including template issues, issue classification, etc.?

We will manage tasks and bugs using GitHub Issues. To ensure consistency and clarity, we will use issue templates for common types of issues such as feature requests, bug reports, and documentation tasks. Issues will be classified using labels (e.g., "bug", "enhancement", "in progress", "needs review") to track progress and priority. Each issue will be assigned to a team member and linked to relevant pull requests when applicable. This structured approach will help us maintain transparency, accountability, and effective collaboration throughout the development process.

- Use of CI/CD

We will implement Github actions for CI/CD. This will include automated checks to ensure that the code compiles correctly, passes all tests, and adheres to project standards before being merged into the main branch. By integrating CI/CD, we aim to catch issues early, maintain code quality, and streamline the deployment process.

8 Project Decomposition and Scheduling

- How will you be using GitHub projects?

We will create GitHub issues for each task, and maintain a Kanban board for issues related to the current deliverable.

- Include a link to your GitHub project

[How will the project be scheduled? This is the big picture schedule, not details. You will need to reproduce information that is in the course outline for deadlines. —SS]

9 Proof of Concept Demonstration Plan

What is the main risk, or risks, for the success of your project? What will you demonstrate during your proof of concept demonstration to convince yourself that you will be able to overcome this risk?

10 Expected Technology

[What programming language or languages do you expect to use? What external libraries? What frameworks? What technologies. Are there major components of the implementation that you expect you will implement, despite the existence of libraries that provide the required functionality. For projects with machine learning, will you use pre-trained models, or be training your own model? —SS]

[The implementation decisions can, and likely will, change over the course of the project. The initial documentation should be written in an abstract way; it should be agnostic of the implementation choices, unless the implementation choices are project constraints. However, recording our initial thoughts on implementation helps understand the challenge level and feasibility of a project. It may also help with early identification of areas where project members will need to augment their training. —SS]

Topics to discuss include the following:

- Specific programming language
- Specific libraries
- Pre-trained models
- Specific linter tool (if appropriate)
- Specific unit testing framework
- Investigation of code coverage measuring tools
- Specific plans for Continuous Integration (CI), or an explanation that CI is not being done
- Specific performance measuring tools (like Valgrind), if appropriate
- Tools you will likely be using?

[git, GitHub and GitHub projects should be part of your technology. —SS]

11 Coding Standard

[What coding standard will you adopt? —SS]

Appendix — Reflection

[Not required for CAS 741 —SS]

The purpose of reflection questions is to give you a chance to assess your own learning and that of your group as a whole, and to find ways to improve in the future. Reflection is an important part of the learning process. Reflection is also an essential component of a successful software development process.

Reflections are most interesting and useful when they're honest, even if the stories they tell are imperfect. You will be marked based on your depth of thought and analysis, and not based on the content of the reflections themselves. Thus, for full marks we encourage you to answer openly and honestly and to avoid simply writing "what you think the evaluator wants to hear."

Please answer the following questions. Some questions can be answered on the team level, but where appropriate, each team member should write their own response:

1. Why is it important to create a development plan prior to starting the project?
2. In your opinion, what are the advantages and disadvantages of using CI/CD?
3. What disagreements did your group have in this deliverable, if any, and how did you resolve them?

Appendix — Team Charter

[borrows from [University of Portland Team Charter —SS](#)]

External Goals

1. To have an impressive to project to put on a resume and to show off to potential employers. A tangible creation that showcases our abilities and expertise in the software engineering realm.
2. To create something that has genuine utility in the real world and that is used by people in the real world because it brings value to their lives. In other words, to create a legitimate engineering project.
3. To hone our skills in the software realm. From backend to frontend, databases to natural language processing, this project should make us feel like experts in our domain and provide the confidence that we can create a software project from end to end.
4. To achieve a good mark in the capstone course.

Attendance

Expectations

All members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings and be reasonably on time (≤5 minutes late). Leaving meeting early is acceptable as long as all planned action items have already been covered and their presence is no longer necessary. As university students, everyone is very busy and missing meetings from time to time is both understandable and acceptable, given that a sound reason is provided and given ahead of time. See below for acceptable excuses.

Acceptable Excuse

Acceptable excuses include any conflicts related to one's academic or professional career. Meetings for other classes, job interviews or needing to study for a midterm are examples of acceptable excuses given that reasonable effort was made to prevent or reschedule conflicts (e.g. if a team member has not bothered to prepare for a midterm until they needed to cram the day of is not a reasonable effort). Personal emergencies are of course also acceptable excuses. Examples of unacceptable excuses are those which are both preventable and related to a subject that should not take priority over the capstone project. For example, a team member being too hungover despite knowing of the scheduled meeting or staying up too late playing video games.

In Case of Emergency

In the case of an emergency, members will not be expected to attend meetings and can be caught up after the fact once they become available. If the emergency results in them being unable to complete their individual work for a deliverable, the group will do their best to pick up the slack and deliver what needs to be done. Of course, this must be a reasonable task and based on the quantity of work and the amount of time until the deadline, a decision must be made if it is realistic to pick up the slack and if it is not, professors, TAs and supervisors (if relevant) must be contacted and informed of the situation and new expectations must be set.

Accountability and Teamwork

Quality

There is no specific requirement for to formally prepare anything for meetings aside from a general agenda of what needs to be discussed which will be composed beforehand by the group as a collective. However, the quality of preparation should be that each member is aware of what will be discussed and has collected thoughts or familiarized themselves on the subject so they can meaningfully contribute to the discussion. If the action item specifically refers to a subject one group member is responsible for or has been extensively working on, they should be prepared to lead the discussion.

Deliverable quality also does not have explicit requirements but it must pass three checks that will be done for each deliverable.

1. All code written must comply with the our groups coding standard.
2. All pull requests must hold up to the scrutiny of a reviewer that is responsible for critiquing the changes and provide feedback as needed (this cannot be the person who made the request).
3. In the case of written deliverables, all work must also hold up to a final document review done collectively by the group at the time of submission.

Attitude

All team members already have strong relationships with each other and thus we already have an implicit framework for interaction and cooperation. We all recognize each other as competent individuals so team members' ideas should and will be openly welcomed but also openly critiqued if a team member feels it is necessary to push back. Fortunately we have a comfort level that allows us to push back on ideas without fear of being made socially uncomfortable. This also includes bringing up any unmet expectations within the group. Our relationships and knowledge that each member is willing and able to do their part allows us to comfortably address anyone that is not doing their part.

As friends, we have also experienced conflict with each other in the past and although it is never enjoyable, we are comfortable with confrontation and are confident in our ability to resolve conflicts peacefully and thus a code of conduct or conflict resolution plan is not necessary.

Stay on Track

[What methods will be used to keep the team on track? How will your team ensure that members contribute as expected to the team and that the team performs as expected? How will your team reward members who do well and manage members whose performance is below expectations? What are the consequences for someone not contributing their fair share? —SS]

[You may wish to use the project management metrics collected for the TA and instructor for this. —SS]

[You can set target metrics for attendance, commits, etc. What are the consequences if someone doesn't hit their targets? Do they need to bring the coffee to the next team meeting? Does the team need to make an appointment with their TA, or the instructor? Are there incentives for reaching targets early? —SS]

Team Building

All members of the group already have relatively strong relationships with each other both inside and outside of class. Planned fun time or group rituals are not necessary as they will happen organically as a part of everyone's general social life.

Decision Making

Generally, decisions will be made by consensus, if there are disagreements, we will try to resolve them conversationally to see if a gap can be bridged and a solution devised. If it can not be resolved, we will resort to a vote in which all team members will participate in and, as a group of five, the majority vote will be the direction the team moves in.