From: **Pierre Flener** pierre.flener@it.uu.se
Subject: Re: 1DL451
Date: 22 May 2019 at 10:30
To: Huu-Phuc Vo huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se
Cc: Pierre.Flener@it.uu.se, Di Yuan di.yuan@it.uu.se, Justin Pearson justin.pearson@it.uu.se

Dear Phúc,

I am on what is called standard vacation and would thus not be reachable during July, hence I will contact you in early/mid August with the timeline and the problem statement.

Sincerely,
Pierre

On 2019-05-20 07:09, Huu-Phuc Vo wrote:
> Dear Pierre,
> It would be difficult to schedule the retake at the moment since there is no time slot for retaking in the ISP.
> However, I would like to ask for retaking the 1DL451 project course from July or later since I am going to take vacation 31 of May to 20 of June.
> Thank you very much.
> Best regards,
> -------------------------
> Huu-Phuc Vo
> PhD student
> Division of Computing Science
> Dept. of Information Technology
> ITC, Uppsala University
> huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se>
>> On 18 Apr 2019, at 16:35, director-PhD-studies@it.uu.se <mailto:director-PhD-studies@it.uu.se> wrote:
>>
>> Dear Phúc,
>>
>> I, as the head of PhD studies, do not require anyone to take 1DL451. The advisors are supposed to follow up on the courses in their PhD students' ISPs.
>>
>> Sincerely,
>> Pierre
>>
>> --
>> Pierre Flener, Professor (http://user.it.uu.se/~pierref), Uppsala University, Sweden
>> Director of PhD Studies at the IT department (Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se <mailto:Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se>), room ITC 1336
>>
>>
>> On 2019-04-17 13:46, Huu-Phuc Vo wrote:
>>> Dear Head of PhD studies,
>>> Just a gentle reminder regarding to my questions in my email 2 months ago.
>>> What is happening with my questions?
>>> Best regards,
>>> -------------------------
>>> Huu-Phuc Vo
>>> PhD student
>>> Division of Computing Science
>>> Dept. of Information Technology
>>> ITC, Uppsala University
>>> huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se> <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se>
>>>> On 20 Feb 2019, at 17:12, Huu-Phuc Vo <huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se> <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se>> wrote:
>>>>
>>>> Dear Head of PhD studies,
>>>> Cc: Lina and Joachim,
>>>>
>>>> The terminology "mandatory" is abused in your explanation since I could not find any mandatory course named '1DL451" for PhD students.
>>>>
>>>> Do you mean that you are forcing me to take your course 1DL451? Is it applied to other PhD students?
>>>>
>>>> Best,
>>>> -------------------------

Huu-Phuc Vo
PhD student

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On 20 Feb 2019, at 17:04, director-PhD-studies@it.uu.se <mailto:director-PhD-studies@it.uu.se> <mailto:director-PhD-studies@it.uu.se> wrote:

Dear all,

There are indeed mandatory courses for all PhD students:
seehttp://www.it.uu.se/education/phd_studies/phd_courses.

In Phúc's case, the project of the graduate course 1DL451 became mandatory by virtue of being also a *research* goal: it was mentioned in item 29 of his 1st ISP (finalised on 8 Feb 2018) and marked as not completed in items 31, 35, and 40 of his 2nd ISP (finalised on 11 Nov 2018) and is therefore automatically a *research* goal under the 2nd (and current) ISP, because it was graded as "failed" on 10 Dec 2018. That inheritance mechanism is a general rule for research goals for all PhD students.

So, in Phúc's case, his stated question does not have a yes/no answer.

The project of 1DL451 was marked as a *research* goal, for him to acquire/demonstrate a sufficient mastery of the terminology and methodology of CP-style modelling and reformulation, plus writing and presentation skills, in the preparation for his own research on that topic.

Sincerely,
Pierre

On 2019-02-20 15:41, Di Yuan wrote:
Hi all,
One comment/question from me about the yes/no question from Phuc:
The key point here is what defines "mandatory". To me, a course is mandatory either because all PhD students shall take it due to a general policy, or because it is explicitly stated in the ISP for a PhD student so it is mandatory for that student.
To Director of PhD studies: Is my understanding correct?
Best,
Di
On 2019-02-20 10:23, Huu-Phuc Vo wrote:
Dear Pierre,

As director of PhD studies: The project of course 1DL451 was not only a course goal in your current and previous ISP, but also a research goal (for you to acquire/demonstrate a sufficient mastery of the terminology and methodology of CP-style modelling and reformulation, plus writing and presentation skills) in the preparation for your own research on that topic, and all research goals have to be achieved.
It do not understand what you mean. I remember my question is yes/no question.
@Director of PhD Studies: do the PhD student have the right to NOT taking a course which is not mandatory?
I am asking about the PhD student right and I expect a frankly yes/no answer from the director of PhD studies about my case.

As teacher of 1DL451: On 21/1-2019 you were asked by email to "[f]ollow the instructions for model comments, reports, and the presentation athttp://user.it.uu.se/~pierref/courses/M4CO/project.html[...]", and that page has links to the demo report (and its checklist) and demo slides. These demo documents per se do not have any goals, except their imposed structure; six requirements were given in the file project2.pdf attached to the same email. In science, quality is not judged against counting thresholds (as that would amount to giving equal weight to every wrong/unclear/omitted explanation), but in terms of gravity: as already stated in Di's email and my annotations, your report reveals, among others, fundamental flaws in methodology and terminology.
I believe that the 1DL451 course project has the learning outcomes or requirements in this case. But the extent of achievement of each requirement is not SMART. If you judge that the other 3 unfulfilled requirements are related to spelling and grammar errors (req. 3), code's comments (req. 4), and presentation without slide (req.2) as stated in Di's email, I think it is too harsh.
I don't want to take your course.

Best,
Phuc.

On 2019-02-19 16:54, Huu-Phuc Vo wrote:
> Dear Pierre and Director of PhD studies,
> I do not want to continue to take your course's project.
> Since I am having a feeling that you are very harsh to me.
> @Director of PhD Studies: do the PhD student have the right to NOT taking a course which is not mandatory?
> You sent me the link (http://user.it.uu.se/~pierref/courses/COCP/demoReport/demo-M4CO.pdf), but these goals are not measurable, e.g. how many errors, unclear comments, ... lead to PASS/FAIL judgement.
> If they are measurable, I expect to have the explanation.
> Best,
> Phuc.
>> On 19 Feb 2019, at 13:36, Pierre Flener <pierre.flener@it.uu.se <mailto:pierre.flener@it.uu.se> <mailto:pierre.flener@it.uu.se><mailto:pierre.flener@it.uu.se><mailto:pierre.flener@it.uu.se>> wrote:
>>
>> Dear Phúc,
>>
>> In addition to Di's already sent clarifications:
>>
>> Spelling and grammar errors are not the sole reasons for failure: eliminating/minimising them is an expected courtesy to the reader and is at page 9 in the checklist of the demo report (http://user.it.uu.se/~pierref/courses/COCP/demoReport/demo-M4CO.pdf) you followed.
>>
>> As reminded by Di (who's on vacation this week) by pointing to the bottom of his letter of yesterday:
>>
>> 1. Requirements 1, 5, and 6 are met.
>>
>> 2. Requirements 3, 4, and 2 are not met, with a disclaimer on requirement 2; I have already sent you (all) a scan of my annotations, further explaining my recommendation.
>>
>> Sincerely,
>> Pierre
>>
>>
>> On 2019-02-19 12:24, Di Yuan wrote:
>>> Hi Phuc,
>>> - In my email yesterday, the requirements that are not met, according to Pierre, were listed by the end of the email.
>>> - As I wrote yesterday, "Pierre can provide you with additional details in form of annotations of your submitted report." So please check with him.
>>> - Spelling/grammar errors: Generally speaking, a PhD student is expected to deliver report(s) with good quality in terms of writing. For example, I would definitely advise against the defense of a thesis or submission of an article, if it it poorly written (such as many spelling and grammar errors). For a course with a report, it is up to the responsible teacher. I do note that in the requirement specification you sent below, it says "... is of sufficient quality ... and in terms of technical writing," and the latter would include spelling/grammar issues.
>>> I noticed you have sent a number of other emails this morning. However I don't have more time right now - will see if I can find time later today to read and reply.
>>> Best regards,
>>> Di
>>> On 2019-02-19 08:23, Huu-Phuc Vo wrote:
>>>> Hi,
>>>>
>>>> Regarding to the requirements to pass which are specified in the specification.
>>>>
>>>> If spelling and grammar errors are the reasons to fail, I have no idea.
>>>>
>>>> Otherwise, please describe which requirements from the specification that are not fulfilled.
>>>>
>>>> To the slide, I already present the problem and models. When I asked, Pierre said it is not necessary to send the slide, just focus on the report and model.
>>>>
>>>> All the comments including in the scanned report are addressed.
>>>>
>>>> 1. Which requirements are fulfilled according to the attached specifications?

2. Which requirements are NOT fulfilled according to the attached specifications? Could you explain in details?

Best,
Phuc.

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_*

Huu-Phuc Vo
PhD student

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huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se> <mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se>
<mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se><mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se><mailto:huu-phuc.vo@it.uu.se>

On 18 Feb 2019, at 16:31, Di Yuan <di.yuan@it.uu.se <mailto:di.yuan@it.uu.se> <mailto:di.yuan@it.uu.se><mailto:di.yuan@it.uu.se><mailto:di.yuan@it.uu.se> <mailto:di.yuan@it.uu.se>> wrote:

Hi Phuc,

I have received input from Pierre regarding the (re-)examination of 1DL451 project. The overall recommendation from the assessment is that the report/results do not reach what is required to pass.

More specifically, three of the six requirements have not been met, and the input from Pierre related to these requirements can be seen below. Pierre can provide you with additional details in form of annotations of your submitted report.

I do not see reasons for not following the recommendation. I will put down this as a note in the ISP draft, and put in 1DL451 in the to-do section, even though at this moment I don't know if/how/when re-examination is to be organized.

Best regards,

Di

- Regarding requirement 3, his final report is not "of sufficient quality, both scientifically and in terms of technical writing, and addresses the feedback received after the presentation": it lacks explanatory details, it reveals fundamental flaws in methodology and terminology, it does not fully address the oral & written feedback received after the presentation, it is not proofread, it is not spellchecked, and it is not grammar checked.

- Regarding requirement 4, the final report does not have "properly commented CP-style models": I cannot understand many of the comments.

- Regarding requirement 2, the presentation slides did not "[f]ollow the instructions for [...] the presentation athttp://user.it.uu.se/~pierref/courses/M4CO/project.html". As hinted at the presentation, I would have accepted slides submitted later, but the issues above are aggravating.

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Pierre Flener, Professor (http://user.it.uu.se/~pierref), Uppsala University, Sweden
Director of PhD Studies at the IT department (Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se <mailto:Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se> <mailto:Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se><mailto:Director-PhD-Studies@it.uu.se>), room ITC 1336

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Pierre Flener, Professor (http://user.it.uu.se/~pierref), Uppsala University, Sweden
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