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Final Project pt3: Lessons Learned/Retrospective

1. How good was your plan? Could it have been improved in some way to make the actual execution better?

My Team’s plan/operating procedure went well. We all met up in-person to minimize any latency or issues with screen sharing. In the process of deciding what our topic was going to be, my Teammates were all open to the different topics, and discussed each of them until we found the one we all agreed was going to be the easiest to research and discuss. Our decision(The UNH IOL) was based off us all having experience working there, and since we come from different consortiums, our knowledge gave us both a larger perspective(Info about the lab in general) and a more precise perspective(What fields of study we’re in and how they differ). The process of creating our “Topic Selection and Planning” deliverable was straight forward, and we delegated the work equally between each other. Once it came down to creating and recording our presentation, we all worked on a google slides document so we could all collaborate in the process of making the slides. Then once the slides were finished, we had a dilemma of recording the presentation. My groupmates first suggested recording the entire show in once take. Since I was a seasoned user of PowerPoint slides, I suggested that we export the slideshow to PowerPoint, all record our parts on one laptop, then export the entire presentation as an MP4. We all agreed that this was the easiest approach and proceeded to do so. The work was done on my laptop and after we were all set and comfortable with the deliverable, I submitted the slideshow. After our presentation was played in class, our team answered the different questions to the best of our ability and tried to split them up evenly between us.

1. What problems or unexpected issues came up during the actual execution of your plan that you are not expecting? How did you address them?

Luckily, there wasn’t many issues that arose during our final project. The one and only issue that I can think of is one of my groupmates(Kambal) was identified as a close contact to someone who tested positive. He both told us and emailed you for the best course of action. Once you said that a Zoom call would probably be the best solution, We talked it over and decided to use my PC and send him a zoom link so he could join once we were in class. Everything went according to plan, however there was a few times his mic picked up background noises from his dorm.

1. Related to the course objectives, what specific things did you learn from completing this assignment?

I got a better understanding of the broad scope of what the IOL has to offer(Like testing for vehicle-based networks). I also got to learn more about the kinds of devices and specifications that James and Kambal test, and how they fit into the IOL ecosystem. Aside from our presentation alone, I had never heard of some of the subjects the other slides covered like DNA computing/storage, and the Facebook-branded Metaverse. I thought every topic talked about during the other groups slides was unique(including Conor and Chafik’s IOL presentation) and interesting, and that they gave good callbacks to our IT609 curriculum.

1. What is your opinion of this entire assignment? Is it valuable or not? Why?

I liked the structure and the scope of the Final Project. The segmented deliverable schedule was easy to adhere to and made delegating times to work on it with my group members easy. I liked the collaborative nature of the assignment, and thought that other assignments that that featured groupwork were good steppingstones building up to the final. A critique I have for the project was that the timing of the presentations could have been a bit longer(maybe a 10 min aiming point next time), although I understand that to fit all the groups in during the time allotted would have made this a challenge. The Q and A portion provided insight into the learning of the groups themselves and I was impressed by some of the answers I got from the other groups. Overall If I had to take this project again, there would be very little I would change(If any).