

# Details

Being active in your team is a requirement for this course, and it is graded. Your participation in these project checkpoints accounts for a third (1/3) of the Class Project, carrying a 10% weight on your class grade. Group members who are not active and are therefore not contributing to the group effort will not receive full credit for each Project Checkpoint.

Each Project Checkpoint has a task that you need to accomplish as a team. These tasks are defined to help you build on your work and submit a final product that meets all requirements. There are 10 possible points for each Project Checkpoint. Five (5) points will be awarded for proper submission of the task and five (5) points for active participation and significant contributions to the group.

Brief project overview: [APAN 5310 - Class Project.pdf](https://courseworks2.columbia.edu/courses/222628/files/23698459?wrap=1)  
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## Task for Project Checkpoint 1

### Define or select your project scenario

Your task for Project Checkpoint 1 is to decide as a group what the scenario for your final project will be.

The available options are the following:

1. "ABC Foodmart" is a neighborhood grocery chain with two locations in Queens NY. They have been around for over 30 years. The new management wants to expand to Brooklyn NY with three new locations. Information on staffing, inventory, vendors, deliveries, sales, accounting, and more has been stored in spreadsheets and paper binders. Decisions have been slow sometimes, and there have been some errors but the system mostly worked okay and the company was making by. But now with the new locations, management wants a better system to handle the data and have real-time dashboards on important aspects of the business. Your team was hired to design this new system.
2. "Dream Homes NYC" is a real estate agency servicing the Tri-State area (NY, NJ, CT), with multiple office locations in each state. They connect home sellers with potential buyers and home owners with potential renters. In other words, Dream Homes NYC clients can *buy*, *rent*, or *sell* homes (note: homes means single houses, townhouses, apartments, etc). The company employs both full-time and part-time agents. Dream Homes NYC wants to modernize their systems and build a database that will help them

both organize their corporate data (offices, employees, expenses, profits, etc) and more importantly save all information on homes, clients, transactions, open houses, appointments, and anything else that can make them more efficient while improving the client experience. Your team is hired to develop this new system. Dream Homes NYC leadership is even thinking about using the database to drive insights and perhaps build an app in the future.

Chose which scenario you will be working on. Feel free to reach out with any questions. Briefly define the reasoning behind your choice, rough ideas around what you will do, any research you have performed in making your decision and your initial plan of action. Explain how your work will improve decision-making for your client. What other benefits will there be? (200-300 words)

The main goal for the group project is to design and implement a relational database that makes life easier for the client while at the same time offering new capabilities such as better/faster decisions from complex queries and interactive dashboards. As a rule of thumb, the final design should have at least 15 tables in 3NF (4-person teams) and 20 tables in 3NF (5-person teams). Remember that the majority of your grade on the project is assigned to the *design* of an appropriate database. As you did in your assignments, sample data help test the database design and the queries, they are not the focus.

## Submission

Designate a team member who will send an email on behalf of the group with an update to this week's task. The email must be sent prior to the posted deadline.

1. Start an email with this title: **Group X Project Checkpoint Update**, where "X" is the number of your team
2. CC your teammates and all instructors
3. Plan for this email to become a thread where we discuss this and future checkpoint updates
4. Detail the group project updates, add attachments if necessary, ask questions
5. The instructors may reply to the email with feedback
6. Make an appointment during office hours to present your progress (starting with Checkpoint 2)