Course Review
&
Exam Preparation 2016

COMP3120 – Managing Software Development

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Completing the course

- **Assignments**   **50%**
  - Group   35%
    - Research Report   10%
    - Peer Review and Feedback   10%
    - Briefing Paper   10%
    - Presentation   5%
  - Individual   15%
    - Reflective Journal   15%
- **Examination**   **50%**
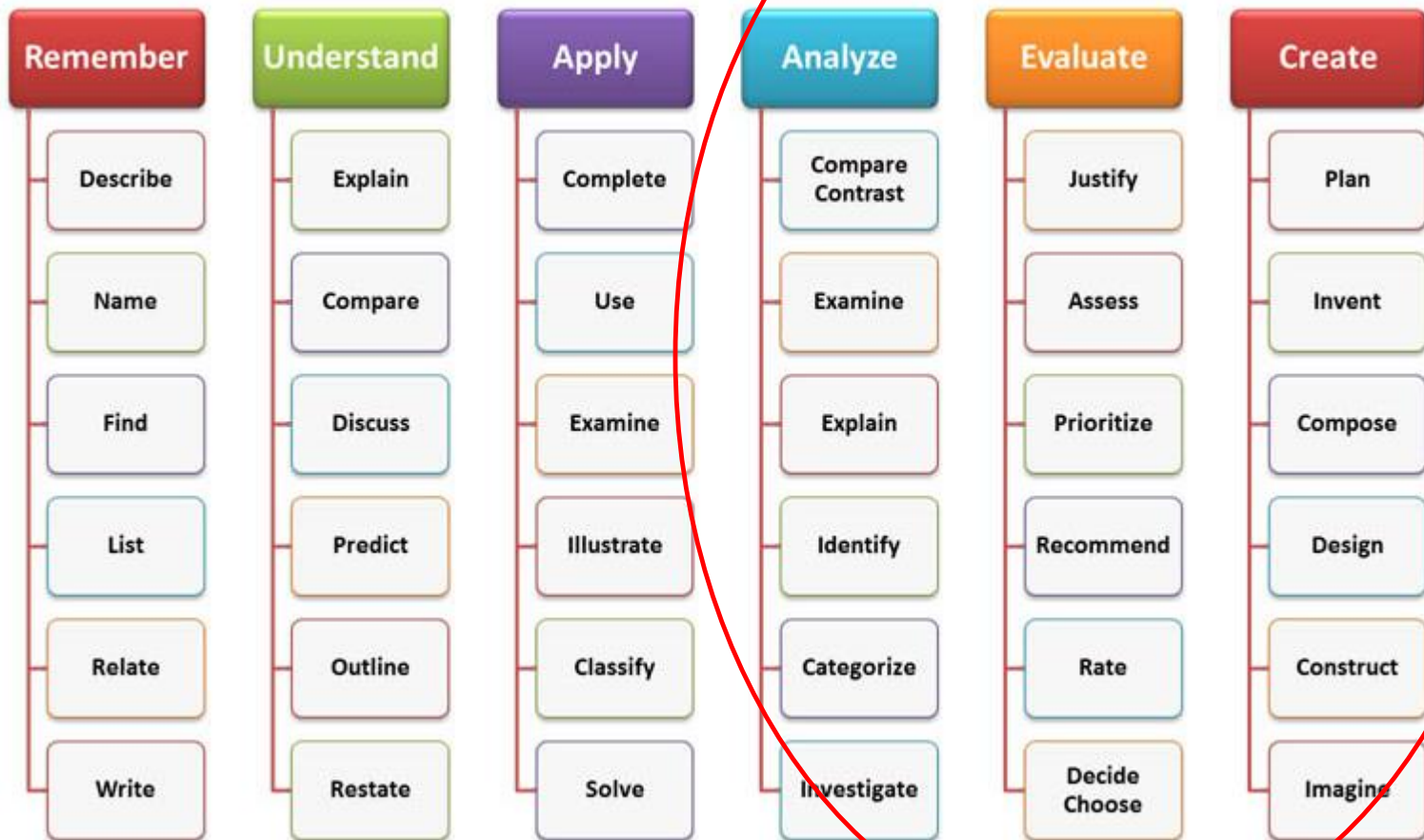 - 3 hour, written examination

Completing the course

- To pass, students must achieve:
    - greater than 50% overall, **AND**
    - greater than 50% for the individual reflection **AND**
    - greater than 45% for the group assignments **AND**
    - greater than 45% for the final exam

Important to remember!

- We MUST be able to read your writing

- Your English expression should be:
  - Coherent, fluent and appropriate for academic purpose, as well as grammatically correct
  - Appropriately and logically structured

- Your answers should be concise.

- Build a defensible argument

- Stick to the facts. Long, rambling answers are more likely to loose marks than to gain them

- To get more than a pass you MUST demonstrate higher order thinking skills

Blooms Taxonomy

Higher order thinking skills

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Describe	Explain	Complete	Compare Contrast	Justify	Plan
Name	Compare	Use	Examine	Assess	Invent
Find	Discuss	Examine	Explain	Prioritize	Compose
List	Predict	Illustrate	Identify	Recommend	Design
Relate	Outline	Classify	Categorize	Rate	Construct
Write	Restate	Solve	Investigate	Decide Choose	Imagine

Required high order thinking skills

- **Analysis**
  - Separating the whole into its component parts

- **Synthesis**
  - Combining ideas to form a new whole

- **Evaluation**
  - Developing opinions, judgements or decisions

Course feedback

- **Wattle feedback** for Lynette

  - Seeks specific feedback on the course which I use to guide improvements for next year

  - I value this feedback enormously

    - This is my exam! Please provide constructive feedback

- **SELT**

  - Please complete the official SELT evaluations

  - These are important and are used by the university and the School to assess teaching performance

Exam Preparation

Exam preparation

- Confirm date, time and location via the official examination timetable

- 3 hours, written exam

  - 15 minute reading period

- One A4 page with notes on both sides

- Paper-based dictionary allowed

  - No approval required

  - Must be clear of ALL annotations

Exam preparation

- Two questions
  - General Knowledge – 40 Marks
    - Consisting of 24 true/false/explain and short answer questions worth between 2 and 5 marks each
    - Answer ALL questions
  - Case study – 60 Marks
    - Largely based on workshop activities
    - 9 questions, including drawing a USM
    - Answer ALL questions

Sample questions & marking explanation

General knowledge -- 40 marks

- Q1(a) [2] Not all software development is a project. Identify and describe two key characteristics of a project which distinguish it from "business as usual".

- Q1(b) [3] Often the only difference between a project's complete failure and its success is in spotting warning signs. Identify two key warning signs and discuss their role in project failure.

General knowledge -- 40 marks

- Q1(c) [2 marks] Agile means no documentation [true] [false] *Explanation*:
- Q1(d) [2 marks] Explain why sending a project report to the governance committee might not be considered as communication.
- Q1(e) [4 marks] Project management is frequently called a profession. Identify and describe two attributes of professional behaviour and using examples explain why they are important.

General knowledge -- 40 marks

- Q1(f) [4] Identify 3 key attributes of a successful software development team and using examples describe why they are important.

- Q1(g) [2] Explain the difference between duration and effort and why a project manager needs to keep both of these in mind when scheduling a project.

Case study -- 60 marks

- Nine questions covering:
  - Benefits of managing projects
  - User Story Maps & MVP
    - Drawing
  - Writing User Stories and key features of a "good" user story
  - Approaches to and the process surrounding estimation of effort
  - Tracking and reporting progress
  - Stakeholder management & communication

Looking at how we mark

- Read the AXA question on the following slide
- Question:
  - What is your response to the article? Did the AXA employees and senior management demonstrate professional ethics in this situation? Explain. What would you have done in a similar situation and why? Do you think the outcome was fair to (a) the investors and (b) the AXA Rosenburg Group? Your answer needs to consider what constitutes ethical, professional behaviour.

In February 2011 it was announced that the AXA Rosenburg Group investment fund had been charged with fraud and fined $ 25 million after hiding flaws in a computer application that determined the fund's strategy for making trades. The company has agreed to pay back $ 217 million in losses suffered by investors because of the problem.

According to the Wall Street Journal, the AXA Rosenburg Group discovered a coding error in April 2010, but the employees who found it tried to keep others from finding out and failed to report it to senior management. When investors complained that their portfolios were performing badly, the company told them market volatility among other things -- but not including the software flaw -- were to blame.

Looking at how we mark

- Marking scheme – 10 Marks
  - 1-- What is ethics / professional behaviour?
  - 3-- Explanation of AXA management and employee behaviour – related to description of ethics & professional behaviour
  - 2-- Consider/explain issues for why you would do something, eg work environment, why not – might loose job impact on family
  - 2– Outcomes – AXA / Investors
    - Relates to who created the issue, who knew, when: honesty, workplace culture; overall responsibility of senior management