Peer Assessment Process

The assessment for CM2003/3006 is 100% coursework based. The coursework is divided into three major deliverables:

* Deliverable 1: Concept Report
* Deliverable 2: Interface Design
* Deliverable 3: Functional Implementation

Groups are formed in the first week and remain the same throughout the duration of the class. To **ensure that individual effort is recognised** **and rewarded** in the grading, a form of weighted peer assessment is used. The method is derived from peer assessment literature [1 & 2] and comprises of the following stages:

### Scoring and Collection

Peer assessment occurs for each deliverable. Group members assess themselves and each other by assigning scores for the following criteria: participation (P); communication (C); leadership (L); and time management (TM). Scores of 0-4 are given, where 0 is no effort and 4 is outstanding effort.

### Processing and Grading

Peer scores are combined for each groups, and processed as shown in the table below, which illustrates a sample group consisting of 3 members:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group Score | 60 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Person** | **P** | **C** | **L** | **TM** | **IER** | **IWF** | **PScore** | **Final** | **Grade** |
| Hero | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hero | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hero | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 39 | 1.31 | 79 | **69** | B |
| Trooper | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trooper | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Trooper | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 30 | 1.01 | 61 | **60** | B |
| Waster | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Waster | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Waster | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 20 | 0.67 | 40 | **50** | C |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| IER | Sum of all factors for Person | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| IWF | IER / Average(IER) | | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| PScore | IWF \* Group Score | | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| Final | (Group Score + PScore) / 2 | | | | | |  |  |  |
| Grade | Mapping of score to alpha grade | | | | | |  |  |  |

The table shows the individual scores that each group member received. The individual effort rating (IER) is the sum of these scores. The individual weighting factor (IWF) is calculated by dividing a group member’s IER by the group’s average IER. The peer score is the IWF multiplied by the original group score awarded for the coursework deliverable (double-marked by academics). The final score is a balanced score calculated as the average of original group score and the PScore combined.

As can be seen in the table above, group members Hero and Trooper receive final B grades. However, Waster was not scored highly in the peer-assessment and received a lower grade of C.

### References

[1] Goldfinch, J. & Raeside, R. (1990). Development of peer assessment technique for obtaining individual marks on a group project. Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education, 15(3), 210-225.

[2] Goldfinch, J. (1994). Further developments in peer assessment of group projects. Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education, 19(1), 29-35.