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### ASSIGNMENT 3: ACADEMIC WRITING

**Subject:** Technology and Information System (SECP1513)

Task: ACADEMIC WRITING on INDUSTRIES TALK 2

**Title:** Project Management and System Development

Links :      “[GitHub](#)“      “[Linkedin](#)“



#### 1. Speaker's Experience & background

Ts. Hj. Abdul Alim Bin Abdul Muttalib, he is the head of company Technology and Innovation at Serunai Commerce Sdn Bhd. He shared his career since graduation from UTM 10 years ago, the company of his, is specialized in halal product, gathering all information in the market about halal and non halal products, food and you name it. Which is comprehensive halal ecosystem for the Muslim clients who always struggle checking for halal products in non-Muslim areas or markets

sections, which involves technologically innovative solution to verify status of halal products, and services. Before his current leadership position, he went through a lot of companies, worked on multiple projects that involve developments, and that shaped his understanding of how the industry works.

## **2. Core Skills vs. Industry Needs**

The industry discussion focused on the importance of computational thinking and problem-solving abilities for computer science students, which allow them to assess issues and create workable solutions (Wing, 2006). Proficiency in programming is also crucial because it enables students to comprehend algorithms and adjust to various technologies (Lye & Koh, 2014). Additionally, effective teamwork and communication are essential for working together on system development projects (Robles, 2012).

While technical proficiency is foundational, Ts. Hj. Abdul Alim emphasized that the industry prioritizes the ability to manage the entire system development lifecycle over mere coding ability. He illustrated this through a candid anecdote about his early career, revealing that he struggled for three years despite having technical skills because he lacked knowledge in project management. This experience highlights a critical gap often found in fresh graduates: the inability to plan. As the speaker noted, "If you fail to plan, you are basically planning for failure." Therefore, the industry requires professionals who can not only write code but also document processes, manage timelines, and understand the architectural scope of a project to ensure it is sustainable and scalable in a real-world business environment.

## **3. Personal Reflections**

**Fares personal reflection:** My personal reflection for how I will be successful in the next 4 years is that I will try to plan my projects as a computer science student. This is a must and not optional, so that I can hopefully guide my projects to success or at least learn new skills from my mistakes. Until then, I will become resistant and be granted success from Allah. As everyone said "NO" in the talk when Ts. Hj. Abdul Alim asked who knows project development, it means we all need to learn. As Abdul Alim said, "If you fail to plan you are basically planning for failure." He gave us advice on how life works, and thanks to him I understand I need to learn more.

**MASHRUR personal reflection:** The session highlighted that technical skills alone are insufficient for a successful career. I learned that proper project planning is crucial to avoid failure, as the speaker emphasized. Over the next four years, I will focus on improving my project management skills alongside my coding abilities. By balancing technical knowledge with strategic planning, I aim to ensure I am industry-ready and capable of delivering sustainable solutions.

**Ali personal reflection:** I was inspired to concentrate on honing both hard and soft skills over the next four years by the industry talk. I intend to improve my programming and problem-solving skills through ongoing practice and project-based learning. To get ready for a lucrative career in computer science, I will also work on honing my communication and teamwork abilities.

**Youssef personal reflection:** The most impactful takeaway from the talk was the realization that coding is only a small fraction of a computer scientist's success. To ensure I am successful in the next four years, I plan to integrate project management methodologies into my academic assignments immediately, rather than waiting until I graduate. I aim to avoid the "three-year struggle" the speaker described by learning how to document my code and plan my workflow using industry-standard tools. By treating every university assignment as a professional deliverable, I will build the discipline required to transition smoothly from a student to a proficient system developer.

#### 4. References

- \* Wing, J. M. (2006). Computational thinking. *Communications of the ACM*, 49(3), 33–35.
- \* Lye, S. Y., & Koh, J. H. L. (2014). Review teaching and learning computational thinking through programming. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 41, 51–61.
- \* Robles, M. M. (2012). Executive perceptions of the top 10 soft skills needed in today's workplace. *Business Communication Quarterly*, 75(4), 453–465.