2024 CSC493 – Capstone Weekly Reports[1]

Your name: Zechariah Sklar

Week: Week 1: 8/21/2025 - 8/26/2025

Select Report Date: Aug 24, 2025

Part 1: Weekly Progress Report

- **Accomplishments**: What did you accomplish since the last class meeting?

  I finalized a strong project direction: developing a system to manage printing inventory and creating a web interface where users can submit supply orders and report machine errors. This lays the foundation for both the technical build (inventory tracking database + QR/web ordering system) and the user-facing components.

- **Challenges**: What are your current roadblocks?

  My current challenge is that I have not yet had the chance to confirm my project idea with Professor Wilborne. I want to ensure that developing an inventory management system with supply ordering and error reporting is considered satisfactory for the capstone. In particular, I would like to discuss whether the scope should remain as I've outlined or be expanded, and how polished the outward-facing aspects should be for staff use. To address this, I am reaching out to Professor Wilborne today (Sunday, 8/24/2025) to ask if she has time to meet after our CSC 246 class on Monday (8/25/2025) to provide feedback.

  8/25/2025 - Talked to professor Wilborne about project idea and got some feedback about if this was something I wanted to marry myself to but still got the green light and said it sounds like a good project idea.

- **Desired Discussion Points**: Do you have any desired discussion points that are not related to roadblocks?

  I would appreciate any ideas on how best to build this system, particularly suggestions on how the different components might interconnect. Additionally, I welcome recommendations for potential features that could be included if the scope allows, especially those that would enhance the productivity, reliability, or usability of the project.

- **Future Goal**: What do you plan to accomplish before our next class meeting? These plans should be related to roadblocks or discussion points. If you plan to change direction, explain why.

  Following our first class meeting and after receiving feedback, my goal is to create an outline for the system and begin development. I plan to start with the inventory management component, as my understanding is that the different modules can be built independently and later integrated. Building the system one component at a time should help streamline development, reduce complexity, and minimize potential bugs or issues during integration.

[1] Detailed Weekly Report requirements can be found here: 2024 URCPP Capstone - Using Agile and Reporting Out

Created: 2024-05-20; Revised: 2024-09-18

Part 2: Time Reporting

Make sure that as you fill out the first prompt, you include in enough detail in the summary. For example, "debugging" is vague, but "debugged function X to make sure that when user does action Y, it is called and returns the value Z" is better.

- **Time Spent**: Briefly explain how much time you spent on your project. If you worked on multiple components, each should get a detailed summary.

  - **8/21/2025** – Waited until project requirements were released in class, then discussed ideas with my significant other and researched online (≈ 1.5 hours).
  - **8/23/2025** – While at work, revisited earlier summer conversations with my boss about workflow improvements and an inventory system; began formulating integration ideas (time not tracked, but notable effort invested).
  - **8/23/2025** – Opened a new Capstone project chat with ChatGPT to scope and explore additional ideas (≈ 30 minutes).
  - **8/23/2025** – Summarized ideas and discussed the initial proposal (≈ 1 hour).
  - **8/23/2025** – Explored a fallback project idea in discussion (≈ 45 minutes).
  - **8/23/2025** – Conducted further research using Google and Gemini on existing solutions and vendor offerings (≈ 45 minutes).
  - **8/23/2025** – Had a follow-up lunch meeting with my boss, Ed Jawor, to evaluate both project ideas, discuss sustainability after my graduation, and brainstorm additional potential features (≈ 1 hour).
  - **8/25/2025** -- Talked to Professor Wilborne about my project for around 15 min, discussing if my project was viable because similar systems had been done before and if she thought it would satisfy the capstone objectives.

- **Weekly Total Time Spent**: Make sure to add up all the hours and minutes correctly.

  ≈ 7.75 hours (direct time spent on research, discussions, and idea development, including class time).

- **Total Project Time Spent**: After the number of hours and minutes, make sure to briefly explain whether you are on track and if not, what you may need to do in order to achieve what you set out to accomplish.

  ≈ 7.75 hours. At this point, I feel I am on track with the project. I am committed to following through with the proposed idea and have begun formulating different ways that the system components could be integrated with each other.

Rubric:

The following rubric will be used, but they might change as needed.

Accomplishments (3 points)

1 point for a general description of progress, 2 points for specifics on progress, 3 points for specifics AND referring to previous targets and explaining how current accomplishments build on previous ones.

Challenges (3 points)

1 point for mentioning there are roadblocks, 2 points for specifics, 3 points for specifics AND what was done already to try to overcome them.

Desired discussion points (2 points)

1 point for at least one relevant discussion point as a general question, 2 points for relevant discussion points with specifics

Future Goals (2 points)

1 point for concrete future targets (i.e. "working more on the project" is a zero, but "working on getting component X to interface with component Y" suffices), 2 points for tying in the targets with what was hopefully discussed in the meeting.

Time Spent (3 points)

1 point for including general statements of how much time was spent ("4 hours on coding"), 2 points for splitting time into specific parts ("1.5 hours on research on component X, 1 hour coding, 2.5 hours debugging"), 3 points for specific parts and details on the pieces ("1.5 hours researching Turtle interface for drawing concentric circles given inputs from the user, 1 hour coding function X that used that interface, 2.5 hours testing function X by giving it multiple values and fixing errors for values A, B, C, and D")

Weekly Total Time (1 point)

Total (Cumulative) Project Time (2 points)

1 point for summing the values correctly, 2 points for the total time AND reflection on progress (you are confident to fit the target and if not, what course corrections you anticipate needing to make)