MIST RESEARCH PROJECT FORMAT AND STRUCTURE

By
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Adapted from

2016

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

- At the end of the session the participants should be able to:
  - Discuss general requirements of the project report
  - Discuss project supervision process
  - Question and Answers

Part A

General Requirements of the
Project Report

Front Page Matters

- First title page (see appendix A)
- Second title page (see appendix B) [as i but no page]
- Student's declaration (see appendix C) [page as ii]
- Copy right page [page as iii]
- Abstract [page as iv-v]
- Acknowledgement [page depends]
- Dedication (optional) [page depends]
- Table of content [page depends]
- List of tables (if more than four tables are in the text)
- List of figures (if more than four figures are in the text)

Cover Page and First Page

APPLICATION OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME

BY

PATRICK M. KAMAU

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2016

Second Page

APPLICATION OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME

BY
PATRICK M. KAMAU

A Project Report Submitted to the School of Science and Technology in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Masters in of Science in Information Systems and Technology

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SUMMER 2016

Key Specifications

- Length approx. ==20,000 words== or 60 pages.
    - excluding refs and appendices.
- ==Line spacing (1 ½).==
- Font size 12 for text and front page matter.
    - except title page (16+) and tables (vary).
- Final document be of laser print quality.
    - Print quality dark and clean.
- Margins;
    - 1 ¼ inch (25mm) at left.
    - 1 inch (30mm) at top, right and bottom.

COMPONENTS OF A RESEARCH PROJECT

- Six Chapter Model and Abstract
  - ABSTRACT
  - Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION
  - Chapter 2: LITERATURE REVIEW
  - Chapter 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
  - Chapter 4: IMPLIMENTATION & DESIGN
  - Chapter 5: RESULTS AND FINDINGS
  - Chapter 6: DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ABSTRACT

- Constitutes six key items (1 ½ pages)
    1. _Purpose_ of the study
        - or General Objective of the study
    2. _Research Questions_
        - or Specific Objectives
    3. A summary of the _research methodology_
    4. A summary of the _major findings_
    5. A summary of the _major conclusions_
    6. _recommendations_ for improvements

CHAPTER 1

- **1.0 INTRODUCTION [7-10 pgs]**
  - 1.1 Background of the Problem (4 pgs) [cite] (funnel approach)
    - Issue: Global to regional to local e.g., farming environ, regional implications, local concerns
    - Context: Discipline to concept to element, e.g.mkt syst to price theory to item price
  - 1.2 Statement of the Problem [½ -1pg) [cite] show gaps
    - Practice, Policy, Scholarship (literature, model, framework, theory, etc)
  - 1.3 Purpose of the Study/General Objective (sentence)
  - 1.4 Research Questions/Specific Objectives (three sentences)
    - 1.4.1
    - 1.4.2
    - 1.4.3
  - 1.5 Importance/Significance of the Study[½ -1pg]
    - 1.5.1
    - 1.5.2
  - 1.6 Scope of the Study [½ pg] (pop, size, location, timeframe, limitations)
  - 1.7 Definition of Terms (1/2 pg – 1 ½ pgs) [cite]
    - 1.7.1
    - 1.7.2
  - 1.8 Chapter Summary [¼ - ½ pg]

CHAPTER TWO

- **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW [13 pgs min]**
- 2.1 Introduction (simply three RQs or ROs) [¼ pg]
- 2.2 Subheading (Based on RQ 1/Statement) [4 pgs]
  - 2.2.1
    - 2.2.1.1 (level 4 to be max.)
  - 2.2.2
  - 2.2.3
- 2.3 Subheading (Based on RQ 2/Statement) [4 pgs]
  - 2.3.1 etc
- 2.4 Subheading (Based on RQ 3/Statement) [4 pgs]
  - 2.4.1 etc
- 2.5 Chapter Summary [¼- ½ pg]

CHAPTER THREE

- **3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY [7 pgs]**
- 3.1 Introduction (simply key headings below) [¼ pg]
- 3.2 Research Design [½ – 1pg] (define, cite, show how)
- 3.3 Population and Sampling Design [1-2 pgs]
  - 3.3.1 Population (specify pop, show pop size)
  - 3.3.2 Sampling Design
    - 3.3.2.1 Sampling Frame (define, cite, show how)
    - 3.3.2.2 Sampling Technique (define, cite, show how)
    - 3.3.2.3 Sample Size (specify, show distribution table)
- 3.4 Data Collection Methods [½ -1pg] (instruments)
- 3.5 Research Procedures (fieldwork - be descriptive) [½ -1pg]
- 3.6 Data Analysis Methods (SPSS is like a calculator) [½ -1 pg]
  - (to do what? [sums? means? variances?, correlations? etc?])
- 3.7 Chapter Summary [¼ - ½ pg]

CHAPTER FOUR

- **4.0 IMPLIMENTATION & DESIGN**
- 4.1 Introduction (simply key headings) [¼pg]
  4.2 Analysis [1-2 pgs]
- 4.3 Modeling & Design (put any code over a page in the appendix)
- 4.3.1 Subheading - RQ 1/Statement [4-6 pgs]
  - 4.3.1.1 etc
- 4.3.2 Subheading - RQ 2/Statement[4-6 pgs]
  - 4.3.2.1 etc
- 4.3.3 Subheading - RQ 3/Statement[4-6 pgs]
  - 4.3.3.1 etc
- 4.4 Proof-of-Concept [1-2 pgs]
  4.5 Testing [1-2 pgs]
- 4.6 Show the implementation and testing criteria used on the system [1-2 pgs]
- 4.7 Chapter Summary [¼- ½ pg]

CHAPTER FIVE

- **5.0 RESULTS AND FINDINGS [13-20pgs]**
- 5. Introduction (simply key headings) [¼pg]
- 5.2 General Information
  - Tables or figures but not both.
  - Headings (tables at top and figures at bottom)
- 5.3 Subheading - RQ 1/Statement [4-6 pgs]
  - 4.3.1 etc
- 5.4 Subheading - RQ 2/Statement[4-6 pgs]
  - 4.4.1 etc
- 5.5 Subheading - RQ 3/Statement[4-6 pgs]
  - 4.5.1 etc
- 5.6 Chapter Summary [½ - 1pg]

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENTS

- Typical Examples
  - Simulations
  - Prototype designs and Field Testing
  - Sample Program Code (if applicable)
  - Questionnaires (if applicable)
  - Interview Guides (if applicable)
  - Observation Guides (if applicable)
  - Checklist (if applicable)
- Structure
  - Section 1: Simulation parameters of Prototype Testing
  - Section 2: Sample Program Code (if applicable)
  - Section 3: Demographic Data (use sparingly if applicable)
  - Section 4: Research Question 1/Statement
  - Section 5: Research Question 2/Statement
  - Section 6: Research Question 3/Statement

CHAPTER SIX

- 6.0 DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS [11-14]
- 6.1 Introduction [¼ - ½ pg]
- 6.2 Summary [1-2 pgs]
  - Purpose of the Study
  - Research Questions
  - Summary of the Research Methodology
  - Summary of the Major Findings (Based on Research Questions)
- 6.3 Discussion [6-9 pgs]
  - 6.3.1 Research Question 1/Statement
  - 6.3.2 Research Question 2/Statement
  - 6.3.3 Research Question 3/Statement

CHAPTER FIVE

- **5.4 Conclusions [½ - 1 pg]**
  - 5.5. Research Question 1/Statement
  - 5.4.2 Research Question 2/Statement
  - 5.4.3 Research Question 3/Statement
- **5.5 Recommendations**
- **5.5.1 Recommendations for Improvement [½ - 1 pg]**
  - 5.5.1.1 Research Question 1/Statement
  - 5.5.1.2 Research Question 2/Statement
  - 5.5.1.3 Research Question 3/Statement
- **5.5.2 Recommendations for further studies [¼-½ pg]**

REFERENCES

- APA Style
- Current (1-5 Years Ideal)
- Adequate (At least 30 or 4 pages)

Citations and References

- Majority of references within 5 years
    - Refereed journals to dominate.
    - Typically 30 references or 4 pages minimum.
- Must be APA style which uses:
    - "References" (and not "Bibliography")
    - Author-date method of citation.
        - Surname of the author and year of publication are inserted in the text at the appropriate point.

Work by a Single Author

- Typical examples include:
    - At end of sentence….Human resource management can be defined as the management of activities undertaken to attract, develop, motivate, and maintain a high performing workforce within the organization (**Harvey, 2001**).
    - Start of sentence….Kamau (1998) compared reaction times…………
    - In mid Sentence….In a recent study of reaction times, Kamau (1998), described the .. …… Kamau also found that …………
- Within paragraph, need not include year in subsequent references to study as long as the study cannot be confused with other studies cited in the article.
    - Harvey still believes that……….

Work by Two or More Authors

- According to Bowin and Harvey (2001) human resource management can be defined as…..
- Work with more than two authors and fewer than six authors cite all authors first time reference occurs.
  - Korir, Otieno, Patel, Smith, and Wanjiku (1998) found. …[first citation]
- In subsequent citations, include only surname of first author followed by "et al." and year.
  - Korir et al. (1998) found. ……………[subsequent citations]
- Join the names in a multiple author citation in running text by the word "and".
  - Wanjiku and Nafula (1999), demonstrated that …………..…[in text]
- In the reference list join the names by and ampersand "&".
  - Wanjiku, M. & Nafula, J. (1999). *Customer satisfaction* ..[in reference list]

Corporate Authors

- Corporate authors include organizations, associations or government agencies.
- Names of corporate authors are spelled out each time they appear in a text citation.
  - First text citation…(National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2001)
- Names of some corporate authors are spelled out in the first citation and abbreviated there after.
  - Subsequent text citations…(NIMH, 2001)

Authors with the Same Surname

- If a reference list includes publications by two or more authors with the same surname, include the author's initials in all text citations to avoid confusion even if the year of publication differs.
    - S. E. Patel (1996) and G. K. Patel (1990) also found …………

Specific Parts of a Source or Quotation of Sources

- To cite a specific part of a source, indicate the page or chapter at the appropriate point in text. Always give a page number for quotations. Note that the word page and chapter are abbreviated in text citations.

- For example:

- (Doti and Ruby, 1999, p. 10)

- (Wilmarth, 2001, chap. 3)

- Smith (1999) stated that "The placebo effect disappeared when ….. behaviors were studied in this manner" (p. 276).

Reference List Format and Order

- Achieng, O. (1998, December 14). Computer groups plan standards. *The New York Times, p. D5.*
- Booker, C. (1997). *Technology and Innovation in the International Economy.* Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing Company.
- Cooper, J. & Michie, J. (1997). *Technology Innovation and Competitiveness* (ed) Cheltenham, VI/C: Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Dessler, G. (2000). *Human Resource Management,* Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall
- Hussey, D. (1997). *The Innovation Challenge. New York: John Willey & Sons.*
- Leenan, B. (2000). *Customer Satisfaction Surveys Miss the Mark,* [Online] Available: http://www.findarticles.com
- Spinner, M.P. (1990). *Elements of Project Management: Plan, Schedule and control.* Englewood Cliff, N.J: Prentice Hall.
- Syrett, M. & Lammiman, J. (1998). *Managing Live Innovation.* Oxford: Butterworth – Heinemann.
- Zahra, S.A., & Ali, A.J. (1997). *The Impact of Innovation and Technology in the Global Marketplace.* New York: International Business Press.

Part B
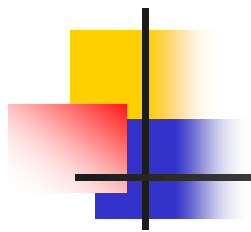
Project Supervision Process

Role of the Supervisor in Research Project

- MIST supervisor appointed by Program Director on submission of detailed research proposal.
  - Student encouraged to recommend one.
- The supervisor to be expert or experienced in the intended area of study.
- Supervisor supervises:
  - Design and development of research proposal.
  - Conduct of the research.
  - Preparation of final research project document.

Other Supervisor Roles

- Supervisor ensures research project is:
    - Academically sound.
    - Clearly and correctly written.
    - Provides original contribution to the field.
- Supervisor also ensures that student:
    - Follows professional guidelines for protection of human subjects.
    - Obtains necessary permission to conduct research.

END OF SHOW

THANK YOU

Part C

Question and Answers