

CM30082 Project Proposal Specification

Submission Deadline	8 PM, 4 November 2022
Submission Location	Moodle
Proportion of Unit Assessment	<i>Formative assessment: For feedback purposes only.</i> This is the first part of two coursework assessments in semester one.
Feedback provided	Feedback via Moodle, written feedback on a feedback sheet and/or during supervisory meetings

Problem Description

The Project Proposal is a short (around 2-4 pages) elaboration of the basic project idea that you have selected. It will consist of a description of the problem that you have decided, with the help of your Project Supervisor, to address. This description will not be a mere repetition of the project idea, but will have applied the knowledge you have gained from your early background reading, and from a consideration of the resources, skills and time available in order to scope the project idea. It will discuss appropriate background work relating to the project and will clearly identify how the project will expand on previous work. This will lead to an identification of the main objectives and deliverables of the project in the form of a high-level requirements specification. This should be succinct and specific. A project plan should be produced that identifies the major tasks and their decomposition, allocates appropriate periods of time to the tasks, and identifies their dependencies. Project planning software may be used for project plan production. The proposal should identify the resources that are required to complete the project, and any limitations that resource availability have put upon the project.

Further details of the Project Proposal are provided in Lecture 1 of the CM30082 unit – the overheads for this are available on Moodle.

Conditions

This is an *individual* assessment – you **must** work on your own, with the advice of your Project Supervisor, to complete this coursework. As with all assessment this coursework is subject to the University regulations on Plagiarism, a summary of which can be found in the assessment section of the Computer Science Undergraduate Programmes Handbook.

Deliverables

You must submit a written Project Proposal in **pdf-format** which *must* include:

- a detailed description of the problem you will seek to address in the project (normally 1-2 pages plus references)
- a high-level Requirements Specification identifying the main objectives and deliverables for the project (1-2 pages)
- a detailed Project Plan using appropriate techniques (e.g. Gantt Chart) that identifies the tasks you will undertake and the initial time allocation to these tasks
- a list of resources required to complete the project and their availability

Marking Approach

This is *formative* work. The following is a *guideline* so that you are aware of what you may typically need to do:

1st Class

The deliverables reach the standard for a 2:1 student. In addition, the project proposal demonstrates an deep understanding of the problem to be attempted and pulls in ideas from the initial background reading that have clearly shaped the proposal. The proposal demonstrates a clear appreciation of other areas of knowledge and sources of expertise that might be brought to bear on the project, and of the implications of the successful completion of the project on the potential users and/or on the related research community. All external references and sources are appropriately cited and referenced, and no inappropriate sources are used.

2:1

The project idea is clearly well understood. Evidence of the identification of potential background reading sources is shown. Initial reading has clearly influenced the project idea, leading to a well focussed project proposal. The requirements specification is precise and succinct, identifying tasks and deliverables and bounding the project. Alternative end-points for the project have been considered and identified. The Project plan includes realistic estimates of effort, appropriate decomposition of tasks, measurable way-points and considers alternative end-points.

2:2

The student has started to expand/modify the original project idea to suit their skills and understanding. Some evidence of additional reading shown. The requirements specification demonstrates effort to bound the project, identifying areas that cannot be considered (if appropriate). The Project Plan identifies all the the major steps and decomposes these appropriately, although may remain somewhat unrealistic.

3rd

The student has not expanded the original project idea from the background reading, and the description of the project demonstrates a lack of understanding of the project. The requirements specification shows a lack of depth. The Project Plan identifies the major steps to be undertaken, but does not take much effort to decompose these further. Timescales are ill-considered.

Feedback Method

Feedback will be provided via Moodle, written comments on a feedback sheet and/or supervisory meetings. Do not hesitate to ask your supervisor for clarification or details. Feedback will be given within 3 weeks of submission.