

## **Personal Experience Report**

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In the first half of the semester from when I joined this group in week 4 to the presentation after reading week, I mostly spent my time communicating with all the group members and refactoring code from the different separate android studio projects to make it fit together in one single project. For this I had to communicate with the other group members quite a lot to keep track of which files were important and what changes regarding layout and minor functionality elements I was doing. I also had to update everyone on the changes to the file structure so they could effectively continue working in the new project and find all their respective files that had been renamed. When I joined the group, I took over the duty of group secretary which helped immensely with bringing everything together because due to writing the protocols I was automatically aware what everyone was working on and how far they were. For that I created a protocol template and set up a section of the github wiki to archive the protocols. Also as the only person who had worked with git before, I gave everyone who needed it a short introduction on how to use it on a computer instead of only on the website and helped out with any git-related questions or problems during the whole project. After reading week, I took on a bigger part of the coding for the project. I worked on pretty much the whole user management part of the app, which includes User Login + Signup and following that creating project groups and adding and removing people from the group. I also adjusted the existing ToDo-List to work with Firebase and multiple groups instead of the MySQLite database it was using before. Again communication with everyone else was necessary because the group management was closely connected to how all other parts had to change their database layout to accommodate multiple groups. In general I tried to stay updated on what everyone else was currently working on and to communicate with everyone as effectively as possible to make their work easier where it coincided with mine. Since I was pretty much the only person in the group with experience with git, databases and java programming, I offered help with these topics when problems came up and in general tried to offer my help when someone seemed overwhelmed or stuck on a problem.

Working in this group was generally a good experience. In many places communication and collaboration worked very well and I feel that the work was mostly divided equally and nearly everyone contributed well. However, Sushant was generally hard to reach, almost never attended any meetings and only started to contribute a small part at the very end when he started working on the final presentation. Marco also did not contribute a lot to the final project due to medial issues and technical problems but was attending about half the meetings and was generally reachable via messages. Everyone else regularly attended our meetings and contributed a relevant part to our final version of the project. All of us were working with Android Studio and Firebase for the first time and most of us weren't used to working with Java. Considering this situation, most group members did a great job learning and researching new skills like database layout, using git, java-programming etc. In total I feel like the group members were mostly working very well together, but that the group leadership could have been handled better during the time we worked from home after reading week. I feel that meetings should have been held more often than once a week and set regularly by the group leader and not only when a group member asked after it. I feel this would have helped to keep everyone organized and on schedule in the new situation and would have given us a better idea on how everyone else in the group was progressing. Also I think in some places we were held back because people insisted on working on problems on their own for weeks instead of asking for help from the group, because instead of redistributing manpower for a few days and solving that problems, before everyone returns to their original task, we waited for weeks for some modules of the app like the messenger to be integrated.