

# Design Project: Reflection report

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## 1 Personal Development Plan

- **Management skill I:** I would like to learn how to efficiently manage a project. A part of management is planning. I would like to improve or learn how to correctly estimate how long certain tasks will take, as I have little to no experience in managing a project.
- **Management skill II:** Another part of management is identifying risks. As this is the first project we ever had which is not checked in advance on its feasibility, it will be necessary to estimate the risk of every stage, at every stage in the process. This is something I had never have done before.

## 2 Reflection Report

### 2.1 Technical Lessons

I learned a lot of new things, especially because I helped both in frontend as backend. Frontend technologies like Javascript and AngularJS I had never used in a large scale project. Both are languages I did not have a course on. It is really beneficial to have hands-on experience with these languages as they are very popular.

I did most of the work for the LTI integration. By doing so, I learned about the OAuth signing process and also the LTI launch request protocol on itself.

It is always helpful to learn how to use new tools in these kinds of projects. Tools like JIRA I would never have known unless my future employer would use it. Before, I also never worked with Slack, XAMPP or Jenkins. Jenkins really is a helpful tool. I did not get a chance to learn the technicalities like installation and setup of Jenkins. However, I believe it is equally important to know of the existence of this and previously mentioned tools.

### 2.2 Personal Lessons - Project Management Lessons

My personal and project management lessons are somewhat interwoven. I was after all, the project manager of my team. Being it here in this project or somewhere else, I know of myself that my leadership style is very democratic. By that I mean that I do not want to just hand out tasks. I want the team to figure it out and expect initiative from everybody, but I would intervene if necessary. In my opinion, the team and I are peers. A different view would be inappropriate for this course. I can imagine however that this is not always the case as Project Manager in a real life job.

It was a real ease to manage this team as every team member was very easy to work with.

We had a team meeting almost every week. That was the only time we would come together to work in group. In hindsight, it could have been beneficial to organize a moment in the week where we would also all be online to work on the project. This is probably the biggest frustration the team members had: having a question and nobody online to give a quick answer. As a result, we lost some valuable time. This problem only really appeared in the last weeks, when pressure was highest.

In the beginning of the project we had a clear planning, with clear milestones. It quickly became clear that we underestimated the work necessary to do certain tasks. Over the course of this project, I had the feeling that I became better at estimating the amount of work necessary. But I have to say that it is easier to estimate my own tasks better than someone else their tasks. It took us until the last review meeting to really understand what is really meant by identifying risks. Now, I believe I have the right concept in my mind and I can better identify risks for a project.