

After investigating the different grading rubrics, I have decided that I the 5 Outcomes rubric fit the best with what I was trying to accomplish this semester. Paired with my time tracking document that I used during my group project, I feel that this semester has been a real growing period for myself. I received a job offer this semester to work for the Naval Nuclear Lab that is contingent upon a graduation date of next summer. This has required me to really focus on what is most important in my life, which I believe is the summary of what Elder Oaks was getting at in his talk “Good, Better, Best”. That is why I chose this rubric. I believe that this semester I have developed and improved my Project Management skills, and in this quick document I will explain how.

The 5 Outcomes Grading Rubric consist of:

1. Grow in the capacity and disposition to act and not be acted upon.
2. Develop additional comprehension and capacity for stewardship and consecration.
3. Develop and execute project plans according to modern project delivery methodologies while working within real life constraints.
4. Expand and deepen knowledge of, awareness of, and experience with how to lead and work individually, within a team, and within an organization to accomplish operational, tactical, and strategic level objectives, outcomes, and initiatives.
5. Create, practice, and implement professional oral and written presentations, reports, consumable solutions, and project-oriented deliverables.

I will try to explain how I accomplished each of these outcomes, and how I made either significant or outstanding advances in my project management ability.

1. *Grow in the capacity and disposition to act and not be acted upon.*

Significant – This outcome was a perfect example of slow start, strong finish for me. At the beginning of this semester, I was lost for at least a couple weeks with the format of this class. Maybe it was the fact that this was my first project management class, but I really wasn’t sure what to focus on. Once I joined a group though, I felt that I began to slowly learn what I needed to improve on. My main focuses became time management leadership. In a previous semester I took a class that talked about the difference between leaders and managers. Great leaders are people that can inspire those around them to be great. Great managers are those that know the details that it requires to complete a project and how to accomplish those details. I wanted to develop both skill sets.

First, I worked on my leadership skills. I wanted those around me to value my input, and believe that I could help them in whatever way possible. I learned that the

best way to do this was not to speak, but to listen. People appreciate it when you listen to what they have to say and will be more likely to listen to what you have to say.

Second, I focused on my management skills. I wanted to be able to accomplish all of my tasks for this project, as well as work on an individual project outside of class. To do this, I built a schedule through the CANVAS calendar page. This helped me immensely because I was able to see when assignments were due for my classes, as well as add personal assignments that needed to be completed as well.

2. *Develop additional comprehension and capacity for stewardship and consecration.*

Outstanding – The projects that I worked on this semester both in a group and individually required a lot of flexibility. Two of the group projects that I worked on had group members drop the class halfway through the project, requiring me to assume different roles. One example is that during the website building project, and individual had been assigned to build the logo for the website. When they stopped showing up to group meetings, I volunteered to do the logo. This required teaching myself how to use different logo software, as well as more communication with the customer so that the logo fit their changing requirements.

3. *Develop and execute project plans according to modern project delivery methodologies while working within real life constraints.*

Outstanding – As a group, we explained in our project presentation that we used several different methodologies as well as our own combinations to accomplish our tasks. It seemed that every week we were trying more effective techniques to communicate and complete each task until we developed a system that worked for us. I believe this is a hallmark of a good team. No one specific methodology is going to work for every team and every situation.

4. *Expand and deepen knowledge of, awareness of, and experience with how to lead and work individually, within a team, and within an organization to accomplish operational, tactical, and strategic level objectives, outcomes, and initiatives.*

Outstanding – Again, I believe my improvement was outstanding in this category due to how flexible I was required to be in both an individual and group setting. An example of being flexible in an individual setting would be on my 3D printer project. I decided to build a 3D printer for my individual project this semester. One of the materials required to build it is acrylic sheeting, and I had been promised some by a supplier in Idaho Falls. Well about halfway through the semester, I received a phone call saying that they wouldn't be able to get acrylic in until after the first of the year. This caused a problem because my personal due date was December 18th. So what I had to do was re-design a portion of my printer to use 16 gauge sheet steel instead of acrylic. This added extra time to my project, but I believe I am still on schedule to complete it on December 18th.

5. *Create, practice, and implement professional oral and written presentations, reports, consumable solutions, and project-oriented deliverables.*

Significant – My progress in this outcome was not outstanding, but I believe still significant. My group and I developed a system that required each of us to complete

weekly tasks, and then report on them at the beginning of the following week. We explained this process during our project presentation, and how this took a few weeks to develop once we figured out what worked within our group. I have always been a person that prefers to work face to face with a group, but I had to learn how to use other mediums like Google Drive and Trello more effectively so that our group could still be effective outside of class.

Conclusion

I hope that this document explains what I have been working on this semester well enough to help you understand how I have grown as an individual. My mission president used to always say that “There isn’t any growth in the comfort zone, and there isn’t any comfort in the growth zone”. After this semester I fully believe that this is true. I required myself to grow on many levels, and to do this I had to try things that I was not comfortable with before this semester. All in all I would call this a success, and that is why I believe I am deserving of a B+ grade for this semester. I truly believe, after a lot of prayer, that I have grown immensely this semester both in project management skills and in coming closer to my Savior. With that said, I still need to improve. That is why I think the B+ is appropriate. Hopefully you will agree with this assessment as well. Thank you for reading.