BCIS202

Systems Design & Implementation

Course evaluations from

Co-operative Education

Project 2016 s1



## Introduction

When students of the Co-operative education project were submitting their final report they were asked to analyse their previous courses with what they had learned and in relation to their project. Here we have statements the students have made about what is good about BCI2201 and any recommendations that could be made about the course content. Each statement is made by a separate student and bullet points are used to make this distinction.

## What students think is good about this course

* This course taught the fundamental elements of project management planning & methodologies available. It introduced methods of Project management, QA, Testing strategies, and implementation plans at a very low level. All aspects were used in this project making it of some value to students
* Something useful that we learned was about the risk management process which was further discussed in IS301
* Once again, this course helped to introduce students to the realities of working in a software development team or project.
* The introduction to usability in this course was interesting and useful.
* Systems design and implementation gave a clear understanding of what quality assurance techniques exist and how they can be implemented into a project.
* This course taught me how to understand the systems design process, design a project implementation and to conduct a post implementation evaluation review. This helped me a lot before the actual project development started and during the planning phase.
* From a personal perspective, I found this course to be a good step to Management of ICT, which included concepts such as PERT charts for evaluating a project, and Gantt charts, for seeing a project broken down into chunks. These ideas are kind of what Agile uses for the same purpose, though using different tools (such as sprint logs, and burndown charts) as well as seeing the management of projects in terms of people. This is what made it useful to my project.
* Same as how BCIS301 benefits my project, this course gives me a base for study BCIS301.
* I learnt about project management and risk management, which was highly useful in this project.
* During our project, theories from Software Engineering book by “SomerVille” were applied to project management.
* We looked at project and risk management, quality assurance, leadership, motivation. All of these issues provided me with insights into working in an IT environment.
* I enjoyed this course quit a lot, it helped me improve my analysis skills. It helped during the beginning planning phase of the project, brainstorming and evaluation different approaches and solution for the projects requirement

## What students recommend for this course

* The concepts of this course are built upon by multiple other courses (specifically in the IS stream) It could be quiet easily merged together and taught at a faster pace.
* My recommendation would be get a client, bring them to class, get them to explain the software system that they wish to implement and I would get the whole class to write a system implementation plan including interface design, people involved, risks associated, time frame etc. That way they could get their first taste of Scrum and dealing with clients. Practicing risk management early in the degree would help them a lot when it comes to doing it again in IS301 and it won’t be such a shock by then. Also the client would have changing requirements each week and challenge students in what they create. This way students get to practice what they have been taught and more or less get interaction in dealing with people which at the end of the day, no course can teach you that unless you practice. I feel like that would have benefited me greatly when it comes to preparation for my project.
* The course may benefit in the future from adding a practical application of Risk Management theory. Actually seeing a risk management plan in action, and the types of threats to a project one needs to manage would be of great benefit.
* My one recommendation would be for the first assignment – it’s requirement should include the evaluation of the Ara website for one if it’s three categories (good, bad, worse), showcasing student’s perspective about the website, which could be used for further analysis by Ara.
* I feel with this course, content could be shifted away from a purely project management perspective, and show real-world examples of quality projects, and what planned efforts where used to produce it.