Project Milestone 1

**Independent Project Plan:**

**Week 1: Milestone 1 - Group Information and Communication/Work Plan**

* Start thinking of the Business Problem to address and how to address it
* Create an overall plan for each milestone (this document)
* Create Folder in Teams with First and Last name
* Find a project to review

To accomplish Milestone one, I will complete the Python/R refresher and then work on Milestone one. Working full time, I will get most of the course work completed during the weekends.

I will be be selecting

**Week 2: Milestone 2 - Data Selection and Project Proposal**

* Select data
* Decide project topic/ business problem
* Create a project proposal
  + Introduce the problem
  + Discuss what will be required
  + Expected results or ultimate goal
* Complete peer review

Milestone two will be the most difficult for me. Throughout this Data Science Master’s program I have struggled with developing my own business problems or topics. I believe the abstract nature of finding a problem to pair with the available free data is a pain point for me. In order to complete this milestone I will need to start early and evaluate my choices often.

**Week 6: Milestone 3 – Preliminary Analysis**

* Start the preliminary analysis

This Data Science program seems to push Python more than R, since I am more familiar with Python I will more than likely use it for the analysis, I leave the door open though for the use of R. The EDA process could fit either in Milestone two or three in my opinion. I am unsure of where I will complete the EDA process.

**Week 8: Milestone 4 – Finalizing the Results**

At this point in the course, the technical analysis should be completed. In milestone four I will be building a model providing the following.

* Explain the process for preparing the data
* Build and evaluate a model that works with the data to answer the question
* Interpret and explain the model
* Begin to formulate the conclusion of the project
* Think of the ethical implications of the project
* Complete the final paper by the end of the week (ideal)

Selecting a good model will be key, I will need to start early to have time to review multiple model and find one that works well.

**Week 10: Milestone 5 - Final Project Paper and Presentation**

* Complete course presentation
* Course paper should be completed

My plan is to have the paper done before working on the presentation and slides. This will allow for a more thorough presentation.

**Schedule:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Milestone** | **Task** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT** | **SUN** |
| 1 | 1 | Craft rough project plan |  |  |  |  |  | x | x |
| 1 | 1 | Create Teams folder |  |  |  |  |  |  | x |
| 2 | 2 | Select data |  | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| 2 | 2 | Decide topic |  |  | x | x | x | x | x |
| 2 | 2 | Build project proposal |  |  |  |  |  | x | x |
| 2 |  | Peer Review |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 3-6 |  | Work on Milestone 3 |  | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| 3-6 |  | Peer Review |  |  | x | x | x | x | x |
| 3-6 | 3 | Preliminary analysis |  |  | x | x | x | x | x |
| 6 |  | Peer Review |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 6-8 |  | Work on Milestone 4 |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 6-8 |  | Peer Review |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 6-8 | 4 | Finalize Results |  |  | x | x | x | x | x |
| 8 |  | Peer Review |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 10 |  | Work on Milestone 5 |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 10 | 5 | Course presentation |  |  |  |  | x | x | x |
| 10 | 5 | Course final paper |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |
| 10 |  | Peer Review |  |  |  | x | x | x | x |

Final Notes:

Due to my work schedule and starting a new career with a new company, I anticipate that most of my course work will be done during the weekend. I will of course make every attempt to complete assignments during the week when I can. This will be a hectic time in my life but I’m dedicated to both building my career and completing my degree program.