June 8, 2020

Course Project Plan

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I will be working on this data analysis project independently. My plan for managing the workload is to break down each milestone into subtasks and assign individual due dates to each one because of busy schedules throughout the week.

Milestone #1 – For milestone one, I am completing this preliminary project plan and scheduling work for the rest of the milestones. I started this task at the last minute and realize it is crucial to avoid this for the rest of the milestones.

Milestone #2 – My plan is to expand upon my project I started in DSC 520 relating to the likelihood that an animal is adopted from a shelter. I need to determine if I will use the same dataset or search for a new one. I am reaching out to my old contacts at the Louisiana SPCA to see if I can obtain more recent data that is relevant to our area. I’m also further specifying my question to determine the likelihood that an animal will be adopted within a week of intake and the factors that influence their adoption. I anticipate the Introduction section will be quick for me to complete because of my domain expertise in the area. For the rest of the proposal, I want to research examples to better understand what each section should include. I leave for vacation on June 13 and will aim to complete as much as possible before we leave and use our drive time to finish up any assignments.

Milestone #3 – The work period for milestone three will overlap our vacation. Luckily, it is a casual beach vacation so I should be able to carve out an hour or two a day to work on assignments. For the first week, my focus is to gain understanding of the data through visualization, data preparation, and feature extraction. The following week, I will begin completing sections of the paper. The plan for these milestones may expand as I learn more information about the steps that need to be taken in each phase of the project.

Milestone #4 – Milestone four appears to be the timeframe in which the bulk of the model evaluation process will take place. The first week will be spent by selecting features, creating the model, evaluating the performance of the model, and iterating through these steps until the best results are reached. As I get closer to this milestone, I will revisit this project plan to subdivide the steps further. The second week in this work period will be spent updating the applicable sections of the paper. I foresee myself getting more ideas as I work on the paper and may return to the model selection process. The final week of the work period will be spent on creating the presentation.

Milestone #5 – This work period will consist of finalizing the deliverables for the project. I will further subdivide each step into tasks as this deadline approaches.

| Milestone # | Milestone Desc | Task | subTask | Start Date | Due Date | Week | Status |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Rough project Plan** |  |  | 6/1/2020 | 6/7/2020 | **1** | complete |
| **2** | **Data Selection & Project Proposal** |  |  | 6/8/2020 | 6/14/2020 | **2** | Complete |
| **2** |  | Chose Data Source |  | 6/8/2020 | 6/9/2020 | **2** | Complete |
| **2** |  | Proposal | Introduction | 6/9/2020 | 6/9/2020 | **2** | Complete |
| **2** |  |  | Preliminary Requirements | 6/10/2020 | 6/12/2020 | **2** | Complete |
| **2** |  |  | Expected Results | 6/12/2020 | 6/14/2020 | **2** | Complete |
| **2** |  |  | Execution & Management of Project | 6/12/2020 | 6/14/2020 | **2** | Complete |
|  | **Week 2 Peer Review** |  |  | 6/12/2020 | 6/14/2020 | **2** |  |
| **3** | **Preliminary Analysis** |  |  | 6/15/2020 | 6/28/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  | Review Week 2 Peer Reviews | Update project plan as necessary | 6/15/2020 | 6/15/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  | Data Understanding |  | 6/15/2020 | 6/21/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Combine datasets | 6/15/2020 | 6/15/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Summary Statistics for Single Variables | 6/15/2020 | 6/16/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Single Variable Visualizations | 6/16/2020 | 6/17/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Multivariate Summary Statistics | 6/17/2020 | 6/18/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Multivariate Visualizations | 6/18/2020 | 6/19/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Complete Data Audit Documentation | 6/19/2020 | 6/20/2020 | **3** |  |
|  | **Week 3 Peer Review** |  |  | 6/19/2020 | 6/21/2020 | **3** |  |
| **3** |  | Review Week 3 Peer Reviews | Update project plan as necessary | 6/22/2020 | 6/22/2020 | **4** |  |
| **3** |  | Project Paper |  | 6/22/2020 | 6/28/2020 | **4** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Intro/Background of the Problem | 6/22/2020 | 6/22/2020 | **4** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Methods | 6/22/2020 | 6/23/2020 | **4** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Preliminary Results | 6/23/2020 | 6/28/2020 | **4** |  |
| **3** |  |  | Discussion | 6/24/2020 | 6/28/2020 | **4** |  |
| **4** | **Project Presentation and Status** |  |  | 6/28/2020 | 7/19/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Update project plan as necessary | 6/28/2020 | 6/28/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  | Data Preparation | Handle Missing Values, Outliers and Perform Transformations | 6/28/2020 | 6/30/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  | Modeling |  |  |  | **5** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Feature Selection | 6/30/2020 | 7/5/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Model Selection | 6/30/2020 | 7/5/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  | Evaluation | Evaluation | 6/28/2020 | 7/12/2020 | **5** |  |
|  | **Week 5 Peer Review** |  |  | 7/2/2020 | 7/5/2020 | **5** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Review Week 5 Peer Reviews | 7/6/2020 | 7/6/2020 | **6** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Update project plan as necessary | 7/6/2020 | 7/6/2020 | **6** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Update applicable sections of paper | 7/5/2020 | 7/12/2020 | **6** |  |
|  | **Week 6 Peer Review** |  |  | 7/9/2020 | 7/12/2020 | **6** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Review Week 6 Peer Reviews | 7/13/2020 | 7/13/2020 | **7** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Update project plan as necessary | 7/13/2020 | 7/13/2020 | **7** |  |
| **4** |  |  | Create presentation slides | 7/13/2020 | 7/19/2020 | **7** |  |
| **5** | **Final project paper and presentation** |  |  | 7/20/2020 | 8/8/2020 | **8** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Update project plan as necessary | 7/20/2020 | 7/19/2020 | **8** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Complete paper | 7/20/2020 | 7/26/2020 | **8** |  |
|  | **Week 8 Peer Review** |  |  | 7/23/2020 | 7/26/2020 | **8** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Review Week 8 Peer Reviews | 7/27/2020 | 7/27/2020 | **9** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Update project plan as necessary | 7/27/2020 | 7/27/2020 | **9** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Complete presentation slides | 7/27/2020 | 8/2/2020 | **9** |  |
| **5** |  |  | Record Presentation | 8/2/2020 | 8/8/2020 | **10** |  |
|  | **Week 10 Peer Review** |  |  | 8/5/2020 | 8/8/2020 | **10** |  |