

Group Assignment

Due Date: June 3rd at 1pm

By email: orubel@ucdavis.edu

The group assignment is based on your practicum, i.e., the groups are the same. You have a to prepare a document of *maximum* 5 pages, excluding appendices and references (if applicable).

The goal of the assignment is to make you think analytically about a possible decision problem related to your practicum, where you identify a problem, define the objective function, decision variables and constraints.

The report should be composed of at least three parts.

1. Identification/explanation of the business decision problem
2. Definition of the objective function, decision variables and constraints.
3. An approach to solve this problem, including the type of data needed.

The objective function could defined either formally using mathematics or loosely, e.g., “understanding the effect of X o Y”. You could propose an optimization model, a simulation model or an economic model (e.g., decision tree) to inform the business decision.

The description of the data needed should be as specific as possible, i.e., avoid vague descriptions.

The report will be evaluated as follows:

- Relevance the problem
- Pertinence of the solution approach to the problem, i.e., is it a reasonable way to address the decision problem.
- Quality of the description of the data needed.
- Quality of exposition.

The decision problem could be tactical (similar to the homework) or strategic.

- One report per group
- Peer-evaluation forms will be provided as well to mitigate the risk of free-riding.