Final Project Guidelines
CSC 1051 Full Stack Fundamentals Laboratory – Year 1

1. Project Context

This final project is designed to assess your **practical understanding of full-stack web development** using the technologies covered in the module.

Technology Stack (Mandatory):

- **Frontend:** JavaScript with HTML and CSS
- **Backend:** PHP (no frameworks are allowed)
- **Database:** MySQL (must be managed using phpMyAdmin)

Project Structure:

- **Group size:** Exactly 4 students per group
- **Submission components:**
    - A live, working system
    - A hardcopy project report (format will be provided)
    - A viva

2. Group Formation Rules (Mandatory)

1. Each group **must consist of exactly four (4) students**.
2. Groups must be **self-formed** and officially submitted **before the due date**.
   Group formation deadline: Sunday, 18th January 2026 at 12.00 p.m.
3. After the due date:
    - Any student **not assigned to a group** will be **allocated to a group by the lecturer**.
    - **No changes** to group composition will be allowed after lecturer allocation.

Failure to form groups before the deadline will result in **no choice over group members**.

3. AI / ChatGPT Usage Policy (Strict)

The objective of this project is to evaluate **your own understanding and skills**. Therefore:

- The use of **ChatGPT or any similar AI tools is strictly prohibited** for:
    - Writing source code (JavaScript or PHP)
    - Writing SQL queries
    - Designing system logic or workflows
- The project will be evaluated through:
    - A **live system demonstration**, and
    - An **individual viva**, making AI misuse easily identifiable.

- If a student **cannot clearly explain or justify** the code or logic they claim to have implemented:
    - Marks will be **deducted individually**.

Important Note:

Individual contributions will be identified during the viva, and marks will be awarded accordingly.

---

4. Viva Examination Requirements
- **All group members must be present** at the viva.
- The project must be able to **run live without errors**.
- Panel members may ask **questions from the relevant contributed part of the project.**
- Every student is expected to have:
    - A **clear understanding of their own contribution**, and
    - An **overall understanding of how the entire system works** (frontend → backend → database).

---

5. Project Report (Hardcopy)
- The project report **must be handed over to the panel on the viva day before starting the viva**.
- The report **must strictly follow the given format**.
- **Handwritten, incomplete, or poorly formatted reports will not be accepted**.

The report should clearly describe:
- System overview and objectives
- Database design
- Backend logic
- Frontend functionality
- Individual contributions

---

6. Project Submission & Viva Information
- The project must be uploaded to GitHub, and the repository link must be included in the report as part of the submission.
- In addition, the final Zip version of the project must be uploaded to the final Google Drive link, which will be shared before the submission deadline.
- Both GitHub and the Drive submission are mandatory.
- The project viva will be held at the end of the second week of March.

- The exact dates and time slots for the viva will be communicated once the final timetable is confirmed.

7. Final Notes
- Marks are **not awarded equally by default** to all group members.
- Each student's marks depend on:
  - Their **actual contribution**
  - Their **technical understanding**
  - Their **performance at the viva**

This project is designed to assess **what you understand, what you build, and how well you can explain it**.