Topic: Tutor Assignment (TA)

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## Date: 01/27/2022

### 1. Problem Background

- During the fall semester of 2021, there were 2828 courses offered and 12126 students registered at UPRM, each taking an average of 4.771 classes. Out of the 57854 grades given, 32.75% yielded an unsatisfactory remark\*.
- The ubiquity of the online modality has limited peer-to-peer interactions with the potential of developing academically synergistic relationships.
- Currently, there does not exist a system to seek and provide tutoring services for college students whose curriculums collide.

## 2. Target

3. Causes

- Students who have already completed a course can seamlessly connect with students currently enrolled with the purpose of passing down strategies and acquired knowledge, thus reducing the amount of unsatisfactory grades.

# Problem: 32.75% of grades received in UPRM Fall-2021 were unsatisfactory. Why? Students have no efficient way of seeking for or providing academic help. Why? Current methods are slow and likely unsuccessful, e.g., email, WhatsApp, etc. This is due to the lack of reach to willingness. A student might not know a person who has satisfactorily completed the course in question and is willing to tutor. Online modality has become more prevalent, making it harder to foster new synergistic connections. Why?

learning quotidian.

#### 4. Countermeasures

- Have an application where students can create a profile and enter courses taken and currently enrolled.
- In their profile, students select courses or topics they are willing to provide assistance with (paid or gratuitous) and courses or topics they are seeking instruction in.
- Students seeking help will receive a list of willing candidates and choose based on their profiles.
- Students willing to provide tutorship will receive a notification when a match has been made.
- Tutors are reviewed after each encounter for predicting the quality of future sessions and hours are logged.

### 5. Check/Evaluate

- This solution is effectiveness based on several assumptions:
  - That all students who are failing are willing to seek help.
  - That there exists a fair amount of students willing to help.
  - That being tutored by a student who already passed the course is an effective method of improving grades.
  - That students will recognize its utility and use the app.
- The effectiveness will be evaluated by the post-session reviews left by users, the size of registered and active users, and the reduction of unsatisfactory grades.

## 6. Act/Standardize

- This idea can expand to not only students in UPRM.
- The platform could incorporate a Q&A system with a feed where students can ask questions and tutors can answer them for more popularity and increased reach by proving knowledge.

Why? The COVID-19 pandemic and the strikes have made distant

<sup>\*</sup> Figures were provided by UPRM OPIMI; Unsatisfactory grades comprise: D, F, I, IA, IB, IC, ID, IF, NS, W