

FIT3163/3164 – Data Science Project 1 – Assignment 1

Journal Entries #1 – Weeks 1 to 5

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Workshop: Friday, 2pm – 4pm (Online)

Week 1

Tasks Undertaken

This was the first seminar of the semester and we were given an outline of the unit. I realized this unit had lots of small assignments to be done throughout the semester. I took time in finding out who the unit leader was and also enquired regarding our project topics.

Critical Reflections

Overall, I came out of the seminar feeling nervous as the teams were picked randomly and I was afraid to get uncooperative team members. I want to score good marks for this unit and will try my best to do so!

Accomplishments

This week, I attended the seminar where I learnt more of the unit and the unit's expectations of us, as well as the expected workload for this semester!

Next Week's Tasks/ Reflections

We would be having our first quiz shortly and so I would like to put my efforts into understanding the quiz topics.

Week 2

Tasks Undertaken

Completed the first quiz of FIT3163. I also filled out the Google Form that included my preferences for the project topics. A general overview of them showed that I am interested in the Data Science projects compared to the Computer Science ones. Prior to the workshop, I had an overview of what we would be doing during the workshop session – which only consisted of team introductions, so I was not too worried about that. We had a really fun workshop session and was an overall productive week.

Critical Reflections

When doing the first quiz for the semester, I had expected the quiz questions to be straightforward and that most of the answers could be found on the lecture slides. However, I realized that I would need to put in much more efforts into understanding the topics discussed during the seminars as I had trouble answering some of the quiz questions. I would need to spend some more time understanding the week's topic before attempting to answer the quizzes.

Assigned Roles/Tasks

During the workshop session, I volunteered to describe the picture for my breakout room members to guess them. I tried my best to describe the picture, although my team did not end up guessing the answer.

Accomplishments

I completed this week's quiz and also filled out the Google Forms for project selection.

Next Week's Tasks/ Reflections

Further preparation for Quiz 2 and hopefully obtain a full score on that. Excited to meet my team members and hope we will all work well together!

Week 3

Tasks Undertaken

The seminar materials for this week discussed different project management approaches and I felt that I didn't grasp the materials fully. So, I attended a consultation to clarify them. During the workshop, we were divided into our respective groups and I introduced myself to my team members. We exchanged numbers and also decided on a meeting day every week.

Critical Reflections

Over the course of the week, I felt overwhelmed with the huge amount of content being discussed during the lecture and workshops. As these materials were new to me, I felt great urge to research and understand these topics better. The activity we did during the workshop was evident that everyone has their own opinions of things and it is very unlikely that 2 people would have the same exact opinion such as when we were discussing the weighted scoring model, our team and other teams had put different weightings to it alongside our own justifications. This was interesting to say the least. Getting to know my team members went by smoothly and I'm extremely thankful that our current time zones are just one hour apart from each other which makes organizing a meeting that much easier.

Assigned Roles/Tasks

This week we got to know our team members during the workshop and completed the workshop activity together where we discussed the weighted scoring model and the business case. Both these activities were related to our ongoing case study, so we made sure to get the most of out the workshop.

Accomplishments

Clarified all doubts regarding the project and decided on a date which we would have a meeting every week.

Next Week's Tasks/ Reflections

Review lecture materials for the quizzes and discuss case study during the meeting with the team members.

Week 4

Tasks Undertaken

Completed the draft for case study 1 which is to be shown to our tutors during this week's workshop. Also completed Quiz 3 which was assessed on the topics taught in this week's seminar. During the workshop hours, our group read the article defining the differences between agile and predictive approaches to project management and we discussed our viewpoints with our tutors. My teammate also attended a consultation to obtain feedback for our draft on case study 1 as we didn't have time to go through it during the workshop hours. After receiving feedback, we decided to fix our draft case study 1 based on the recommendations given during the consultation.

Critical Reflections

During the meeting, I felt that I was unable to provide much theory from the lectures and relied on common sense instead. In future meetings, I would like to incorporate much more theories discussed in the lectures for our project. This week, I was also preoccupied with assignment works from other units that required submission for this week, hence I was less focused during the workshop hours and wasn't able to contribute much to the discussion. I feel the need to divide my time amongst my tasks better.

Assigned Roles/Tasks

This week's meeting was mainly to discuss the case study. My team members were extremely helpful and cooperative as they set up the google docs and zoom meeting accordingly. During our discussion, I tasked myself to write down the main points for the weighted scoring model and the business case. In the middle of the week, Case Study 2 was released, and my team members and I decided to each find an article each and find relevant points for each question before our meeting on Monday next week.

Accomplishments

Completed Quiz 2 and also had our very first team meeting in Zoom where we discussed the weighted scoring model and the business case relevant to our chosen project. Meeting went extremely well, and everyone did their tasks accordingly.

Next Week's Tasks/ Reflections

First, we need to fix our case study 1 draft to make it ready for submission, as well as collate points for case study 2 so we can get feedback during next week's workshop.

Week 5

Tasks Undertaken

Organized another meeting this week, where we discussed and improvised on the case study 1 contents. We also discussed briefly regarding case study 2 and divided our parts equally so that we can submit a draft on this week's workshop to get feedback from the tutor.

Critical Reflections

Although I have understood the contents given in the seminar and as we progress through the materials, I am able to incorporate some of the concepts taught in the seminar to the thought process shared by my team. However, I am unsure of the quality of the case studies my team and I prepared for the assignment. I will have to attend a consultation sometime next week to clarify this doubt and aim for improvements that can be made into our submission. During the workshop, we were tasked to create a network diagram, however, it turns out I drew out a wrong network diagram and was lost throughout the tutor's explanation. However, in the main room, we were given a very extensive explanation and although it made me understand the task a little better, I still am not confident in creating network diagrams. So, during the holidays, I am going to revise the materials regarding the network diagram to see if I can understand them better.

Assigned Roles/Tasks

Each of us worked on converting the bullet points in case study 1 into paragraphs and also decided to split the parts for case study 2. I wrote a draft for the literature review part.

Accomplishments

Finished Case Study 1 and working on Case Study 2 draft to be given on this week's workshop. This week's meeting also went well, and we had a discussion on where we are in the project and clarified any doubts that we had.

Next Week's Tasks/ Reflections

For next week, my team and I will gather round for another meeting to discuss the final case study and make it all three case studies ready for submission. I want to spend some more time further understanding the project scope and requirements as well as making necessary changes towards our previous case studies for improvement.