

Prospectus with Signed Professional Conduct Statement and Capstone Survey Form

The purpose of the Prospectus assignment is to encourage you to define your topic quickly and begin work during the first few weeks of the term. You should choose an interesting and challenging project that you can complete during the semester, one that demonstrates the abilities you gained during your time in your degree program to the faculty, your fellow students, and potential employers.

Before writing the prospectus, you should have one or more discussions of the project with your sponsor. You and your sponsor should agree upon your Minimum Viable Product (MVP) – what the application is and features that will be delivered.

At least 2 days before the due date, you should deliver a copy to your sponsor to allow them to read and okay your proposal.

Prepare your written paper in a **double-spaced** format with a **12-point font**. The order of the paper should be:

1. Prospectus -

- Cover sheet - must include the following information:
 - i. the proposed project title (this can evolve over time)
 - ii. your name and email address
 - iii. your sponsor's name, (organization and telephone number if from outside of the department), and email address
- Main doc - a maximum length of **two pages** with a minimum length of **one FULL page** (the Cover sheet, the Professional Conduct Statement, nor the Capstone Survey Form count towards the length of the prospectus).

Write a brief description of your project's topic. Include as much detail as possible without specifying any programming language or tools that may be used. Try to be as realistic and specific as possible. In particular, the prospectus must include:

- i. what problem you are addressing with the project
- ii. why you selected the project (what motivated you to select it, did this project come from another CS course and what changes you intent to make for this to be a new project)?
- iii. The MVP of the project (the end result or product will you deliver). Not a bulleted list, but a paragraph.
- iv. what risks/challenges you potentially face in the project
- v. Who are the users of the product (user types/stories)?
- vi. what tasks (database completion, dataset acquisition, game story board, etc. - these are examples not an exhaustive list) you

must carry out to complete the project and an initial timeline for those tasks.

2. Capstone Survey Form – fill out the following sections of the form:

- Student Information
- Client Information (your sponsor)
- Project Title and Brief Description
- Project Goals and Deliverables.

Also place a checkmark in the appropriate boxes for:

- Individual Project
- Confidentiality
- Student Intellectual Property Rights

Both you and your sponsor need to sign and date the form (you may need to email a completed form for your sponsor to sign, date, scan, and return to you)

(The University's Director of Technology Management within the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) has requested that CSci 487 students, their sponsors, and their instructors fill out the ***University of Mississippi Undergraduate Capstone Senior Project*** form.

The purpose of this form is “to help communicate expectations among the student(s), Client(s)/Sponsor(s), and UM faculty” concerning a project’s use of the client’s “confidential information” and the status of “intellectual property” developed by the project.

The survey form includes the contact information for the Director of Technology Management if your sponsor wishes to discuss any issues directly with that office.)

3. The Professional Conduct Statement – sign and fill out the fields

Submit your paper and completed forms as a digital copy to Blackboard by the due date. Your prospectus must be reviewed and okayed by your sponsor. Your prospectus must also be approved by your instructors before you begin the actual work involved in your project (we will review your document and suggest changes that may be necessary prior to project approval).