09/04: Project Plan

The Capstone Experience

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Fall 2019
Project Plan

➢ Functional Specifications
  • Design Specifications
  • Technical Specifications
Functional Specifications

• What does it do?
  (Not “how” does it do it?)
  ▪ What’s your client’s problem?
  ▪ What’s your solution?

• Includes
  ▪ List of Objectives
  ▪ Use Cases

• Not Necessarily Complete
• Understandable by End User
• Initial Problem Statement
• Usually Refined
Functional Specifications Examples

• Amazon
  ▪ Simplify Use of Amazon Sellers API
  ▪ Used by Amazon Third-Party Sellers

• Evolutio
  ▪ Provide Facial Recognition of Elephants
  ▪ Predictively Track Elephants
  ▪ Aid Combatting Elephant Poaching

• Proofpoint
  ▪ Protect Users from Computer Security Terrorists
  ▪ Detect and Analyze State Sponsored Security Threats

Understandable by End User
Functional Specifications
Interactions With Your Client

- Derived With/From Client
- Documented For Client
- Presented to Client
- Agreed Upon With Client
- Your Job to Capture the Client’s Intent!
Project Plan

✓ Functional Specifications

➢ Design Specifications

• Technical Specifications
Design Specifications

• What’s the user experience (UX)?
  ▪ How does a user use it?
  ▪ How does it look and feel?
  ▪ What are the features?
• Includes
  ▪ Business Process Flow
  ▪ Specific Features
  ▪ Use Cases
  ▪ Screen Mockups
  ▪ Data Flow Diagrams
  ▪ Data Organization
  ▪ Etc...
• Identifies All the Parts and Their Interactions
• (Mostly) Understandable by End User
• Usually Refined
Design Specifications Examples

• GM
  ▪ Categorize Network Flows
  ▪ Classify Communication Type
  ▪ Learn Normal Traffic
  ▪ Identify Anomalies
  ▪ Establish Traffic Patterns
• Michigan State University ITS
  ▪ Collect User Interests and Backgrounds
  ▪ Club and Organization Suggestions
  ▪ Provide Information on How to Connect
  ▪ Register and Administer Clubs
  ▪ Register for Clubs and Organizations
• Yello
  ▪ Match Data to Standardized List in Real-Time
  ▪ Persist to a Database
  ▪ Provide UI for Entering Data

Mostly Understandable by End User
Screen Mockups

- User Interface Only
  - Shows Layout, Buttons, Pull-Downs, Etc...
  - Non-Functional
  - No Back End
- Helpful for Developing
  - Functional Specifications
  - Look-and-Feel
  - Use Cases
- Can Create with...
  - Pencil and Paper
  - PowerPoint (Developer View)
  - Photoshop
  - Etc...
- NOT Screen Captures of Other Software
Screen Mockups

• “Use” with Clients
  ▪ Show to Clients
  ▪ Go Through Use Cases with Clients

• “Cruder” may be better.
  ▪ What?
  ▪ Why?
Login Page

User Id

Password

Remember Me

Submit
Landing Page

Welcome to Our App
Screen Mockup Example
Screen Mockups Example

[Two images of a chair, one with an adjustment instruction and the other with a label "Aeron (remastered)".]
Screen Mockups Example
Design Specifications
Interactions With Your Client

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Project Plan

✓ Functional Specifications

✓ Design Specifications

➢ Technical Specifications
Technical Specifications

• How does it do it?
• Identifies All the Parts and Their Interactions
• Everything a Developer Needs to Write the Code
• Includes Things Like...
  ▪ Overall System Architecture
  ▪ Machine Architectures
  ▪ Software Technologies
  ▪ Algorithms
  ▪ Production Environments
  ▪ Development Environments
  ▪ SDK’s (Software Development Kits)
  ▪ Network Topology
  ▪ Database Schema
  ▪ Continued...
Technical Specifications

• Includes Things Like...
  ▪ Object Models and Class Diagrams
  ▪ UML Diagrams
  ▪ Pseudo Code
  ▪ Function Prototypes
  ▪ Schedule
  ▪ Test Plan
  ▪ Risk Analysis
  ▪ Etc...

• Probably Not Understandable by End User
• Usually Refined
Technical Specifications Examples

- Dow
  - Unity Game Engine
  - Apple iOS / Swift
  - Google Android / Java
  - ARKit / ARCore / Vuforia
  - App Center / TestFlight
  - Microsoft Azure
- Mozilla / Firefox
  - JavaScript
  - C++
  - Mercurial
  - IRC
  - Bugzilla
  - Phabricator
  - Windows / macOS / Linux
- United Airlines
  - MS SQL Server Database
  - Node.js
  - Angular
  - ASP.NET Core
  - C#
  - Swift

Probably **Not** Understandable by End User
System Architecture Example

The Capstone Experience

Project Plan
System Architecture Example
System Architecture Example

[Diagram showing a system architecture with components such as CATA, CATA Reader, MySQL, API Layer, Android Application, and iOS Application connected with requests and responses.]
Approach

• Break Big Problems Into Smaller Problems
• Identify Constraints
• Identify “Risks” — Things You Don’t…
  ▪ ...Know
  ▪ ...Understand
  ▪ ...Know How To Do
• Consider Tradeoffs
• Select Appropriate Technologies
• Identify Core Features for a Prototype
Technical Specifications

Interactions With Your Client

- Derived With/From Client
- Documented For Client
- Presented to Client
- Agreed Upon With Client
- Your Job to Capture the Client’s Intent!

Cannot be emphasized enough!
Project Plan Summary

• Specifications
  ▪ Functional: What does it do?
  ▪ Design: How does it look and feel?
  ▪ Technical: How does it do it?

• Testing Plan

• Schedule
How To’s

• Quickly identify...
  ▪ ...what you don’t know,
  ▪ ...what you don’t understand, and
  ▪ ...what you don’t know how to do.

• Conceptually...
  ▪ Start with functional specifications.
    o Get agreement with client.
    o Include as first part of project plan.
  ▪ Do design specifications.
    o Get agreement with client.
    o Include as 2nd part of project plan.
  ▪ Do technical specifications.
    o Get agreement with client.
    o Include as 3rd part of project plan.
  ▪ Do schedule.
  ▪ Do development, testing, and deployment.

• In CSE498, must do all three in parallel (and iterate).
How To’s

• Approach
  ▪ Make Skeleton Document Immediately
    o Will Get You Organized and Focused
    o Include “Under Construction” Sections (Totally Empty)
  ▪ Develop In Parallel When Possible But…
    o Complete Functional First
    o Complete Design Second
    o Complete Technical Third
  ▪ Refine As Needed
  ▪ Assign Sections to Team Members
  ▪ Share with Client
    o Ask For (Specific) Feedback
    o Highlight What’s New
    o Tricky Balance
      ❖ Not Enough?
      ❖ Too Much?

“Is this what you had in mind?”
How To’s

• Schedule
  ▪ Dictated by Course
  ▪ **Schedules > Major Milestones**
    ▪ 09/11: Status Report Presentations
    ▪ 09/23: Project Plan Presentations
    ▪ 10/14: Alpha Presentations
    ▪ 11/18: Beta Presentations
    ▪ 12/02: Project Videos
    ▪ 12/04: All Deliverables
    ▪ 12/05: Design Day Setup
    ▪ 12/06: Design Day
    ▪ 12/09: Project Videos
  ▪ Other Milestones By Educated Guesses

• Track To It At Least Weekly at Triage Meetings
• Revisit Often and Revise If Necessary
• Delivery Slippage == Graduation Slippage
How To’s

• “Living Document”

• Make Sure Your Project Plan Has...
  ▪ Cover Page
  ▪ Title
  ▪ Table of Content
  ▪ Page Numbers
  ▪ Headers and Footers
  ▪ Etc...

(That is, make sure your plan looks professional.)
Interactions With Client

Client May Specify...

• Requirements
  ▪ Functional
  ▪ Design
  ▪ Technical Requirements
    o Operating Systems
    o Programming Languages and Environments
    o Web Technologies
    o Etc...
  ▪ Legacy

• Milestones

• Etc...

(You may explore and propose other ideas.)
Nota Bene: Project Plan

- Must Use Windows Microsoft Office
  - Word and PowerPoint
  - Included with Windows 10 VM.
  - Get it done now!
  - (Do not attempt to use anything other than Windows Microsoft Office.)
- How many...
  - ...drafts will you write? Many.
  - ...drafts will you share with your client? A Couple.
  - ...final documents will you submit for CSE498? One
- Due Date
  - 11:59 p.m., Sunday, September 22
  - ~ 2.5 Weeks
- In Class Formal Presentations
  - September 11 – October 2
  - PowerPoint Template Provided

Get on it, now!
Resources on the Web

• **Other Links > Downloads**

Project Plan Examples

- **Spring 2018**
  - Team Herman Miller
  - Team Proofpoint

- **Fall 2018**
  - Team Herman Miller
  - Team Proofpoint

• **High Resolution Sponsor Logo**

Project Plan

✓ Functional Specifications
✓ Design Specifications
✓ Technical Specifications
What’s ahead?

• Team Photos
  o Thursday, September 19, 2:00 p.m.
  o Dress code is business casual.
  o TAs will make schedule.

• Setup
  ▪ Team Machines
    o Dell Server If Needed (Ask TAs)
    o Apple iMacs (with Windows 10 VM)
  ▪ Team Software
    o Microsoft Office
      ❖ Word and PowerPoint
      ❖ Microsoft Windows Version → Required. Use Windows 10 VM.
    o Web Server
    o Code Repository
    o SDK’s
    o Etc.
What’s ahead?

• All-Hands Meetings
  • 08/28: Capstone Overview
  • 09/04: Capstone Overview
  • 09/09: Risks and Prototypes
  • 09/11: Team Status Report Presentations
  • 09/16: Resume Writing and Interviewing
  • 09/18: Career Days
  • 09/23: Team Project Plan Presentations
  • 09/25: Team Project Plan Presentations
  • 09/30: Team Project Plan Presentations
  • 10/02: Team Project Plan Presentations
What’s ahead?

• Team Status Report Presentations
  ▪ **PowerPoint Template**
  ▪ Due 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, September 10 < One Week
  ▪ Email to Dr. D.
    o Subject: Team [Team Name]: Status Report Presentation
    o Subject: Team Auto-Owners: Status Report Presentation
    o Attachment: team-[team-name]-status-report-presentation.pptx
    o Attachment: team-urban-science-status-report-presentation.pptx

• Dr. D. Will Combine Into Single PowerPoint
  ▪ To Speed Things Up During Meeting
  ▪ Do NOT Modify Master Slide
  ▪ Must Use Windows Version of Microsoft Office

• Each Team Presents
  ▪ Using TAs’s Laptop
  ▪ At Most 5.0 Minutes (Rehearse Timing)
  ▪ Single or Multiple Presenters (Your Choice)

← Get on it now!
Status Report Presentation

Team [Team Name]

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Status Report Instructions

• Use the Microsoft Windows version of PowerPoint.
• Required Template
  ▪ Do not edit the master slides.
  ▪ Do not change the organization or number of slides.
  ▪ Make your presentation fit within these four slides.
• Content
  ▪ For the slide titles, replace [Team Name] with your company name as in “Team Auto-Owners” and [Project Title] by the project title posted online.
  ▪ All presentations will be posted on the course web site so do not include company confidential information or anything that your client would not want posted.
  ▪ Delete this slide from the presentation.
• Presenting
  ▪ The order of the presentations during our meeting will be team numerical order.
  ▪ The time limit for your presentation is 5 minutes, which will be strictly enforced. Practice your presentation to ensure that you will finish within the allotted time.
• Submission by Email ← Read this carefully.
  ▪ All presentations are due via email to me and to your client by 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, September 10. Send your presentation to your client in a separate email; do not cc me.
  ▪ For subject, use “Team [Team Name]: Status Report Presentation” as in “Team Urban Science: Status Report Presentation”.
  ▪ Attach the PowerPoint source file named “team-[team-name]-status-report-presentation.pptx” as in team-auto-owners-status-report-presentation.pptx. Use all lower case and replace blanks by dashes in your filename.
  ▪ Include some (professional) text in the body to avoid being sent to my junk folder and to practice being a professional.
Team [Team Name]

Status Report

[Project Title]

• Project Overview
  ▪ Description Point 1
  ▪ Description Point 2
  ▪ Description Point 3
  ▪ Description Point 4

• Project Plan Document
  ▪ Status Point 1
  ▪ Status Point 2
  ▪ Status Point 3
  ▪ Status Point 4

Include status information.
What’s the status of your project plan document?
Have you started it?
How much have you written?
What percentage complete is it?

Delete this textbox and the brace to the left.
Team [Team Name]

Status Report

[Project Title]

• Server Systems / Software
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 1
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 2
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 3

• Development Systems / Software
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 1
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 2
  ▪ Description &/or Status Point 3

Include status information. Are all systems up and running? Have you tested everything? Delete this textbox and the brace to the left.
Include status information.
Have you talked with/met with your client?
Have you scheduled a weekly conference call? When?
Have you scheduled an in-person meeting? When?
How many times has your team met so far?
Have you scheduled team meetings? How often?

Delete this textbox and the brace to the left.
Team [Team Name]

Status Report

[Project Title]

Risks

• Risk 1
  ▪ Description
  ▪ Mitigation

• Risk 2
  ▪ Description
  ▪ Mitigation

• Risk 3
  ▪ Description
  ▪ Mitigation

• Risk 4
  ▪ Description
  ▪ Mitigation

List only “real” risks. For example, learning a new computer languages is not a risk.

Give “useful” explanation of how you are going to mitigate each risk. For example, “we will learn how to do it” is not a useful explanation.

Delete this textbox.