

CSE 403, Winter 2008
Homework Assignment #1: Project Proposal Presentation ("LCO")
Due: Thursday, January 10, 2008, 2:30 PM (in class); 10 points

Assignment Description:

In this initial assignment, you will present an idea for a roughly eight-week programming project (including design and testing) that you'd like to undertake in this course. A project proposal like this is sometimes called a Lifecycle Objectives or "LCO" document.

This assignment is completed with one or two partners. Place all partners' names atop your documents.

You will present your LCO material to the class. Everyone will then have the opportunity to review the material and vote on the projects they feel most compelling and feasible, and that they would most like to work on. Some projects will not go beyond the presentation stage, and others will be staffed and actually implemented. At that point, we will reorganize you into larger teams to actually build those products.

The following are the constraints for types of projects:

- The product must be a web-based application written with an object-oriented programming language.
- The product must have some non-trivial database or server-side data component.
- The product must have some meaning or context outside of computer science. For example, it cannot be a source control system or a web-based Ruby interpreter.
- The project may not be a video game. (It can have game-like elements, such as a charades / Pictionary applet, but it may not be a traditional video game such as Mario, Pac-Man, Half Life, role-playing, etc.)
- The project must involve communication between two or more computers. In other words, it should be network enabled, be a client-server application, etc.
- The project should be of suitable size and scope that it can be completed in the time allowed; not much more or less.
- The project must be one that you are starting essentially from scratch; you may not build on a significant amount of code you or others have written outside this course.
- You may not be receiving monetary compensation or credit in another course for working on this project (no double-dipping).

You should come to section on Thursday with nothing but a URL that points to your presentation. At this URL should be either a short web page (sized so that all relevant contents fit on 1 or 2 screenfuls) or a PowerPoint presentation with ≤ 2 slides. Your presentation will be short (approximately 3 minutes). In this time, you should briefly answer the following questions:

- What is the project? Why is this a neat project to work on?
- What languages and tools do you plan to use to complete this project?

You should have at least one figure or diagram in your presentation for full credit. All group members must participate in some way in the presentation. The audience will be asked to rate your presentation on various categories related to the preceding information.

Your grade is not based upon whether your project is chosen by others to be implemented. It is, however, based upon completing the requirements asked previously with a satisfactory level of care and detail. We will look to see that you have made reasonable judgments in your project and presented your proposal well.