CIS 450 - Project Handout 1
Team Assignments and Scenario Descriptions

This is the first of several handouts related to the CIS 450 team course project. This first handout gives the project team assignments, and the first project milestone.

Note that, as a possible experiment, the tentative plan is that the CIS 450 team course project will actually/possibly be the beginning of the Spring 2012 CIS 492 team course project. This is very subject to change, but it is a factor shaping some aspects of this project's design and requirements.

Your first milestone will include, by the **end of class** on **Tuesday, November 15th**, submission of proposals for your first and second choices with regard to project scenarios. Then, I hope to let each team know which project scenario they have been approved for, and which scenario they will serve as "clients" for, by **Thursday**, **November 17th**. The approved project may be a modification of one of your team's submissions, or possibly it may be something completely different...

Project Team Assignments

Team 1

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Team 2

Dan Cobb, Jared Nipper, Michael Rohan

Project Milestone 1

In this first milestone, you shall make a case for two project scenarios that your team might be interested in working on. You will write two proposals for two scenarios, your first-choice and your second-choice scenarios. Since it is possible that you will also be continuing with this scenario in CIS 492 in Spring 2012, you should think carefully about what you might be interested in working with as a team over that period of time; since the other team will likely be occasionally serving as a "client" for your project in possibly-various aspects, you should also consider that aspect. One of the requirements for a CIS 492 project is that it involve the modeling, design, and implementation of an operational Oracle database; you might also want to make sure that a database might somehow eventually be useful in your chosen scenario.

There are also several other requirements for this first milestone, described below; make sure that you complete them as well.

Milestone 1 deadline:

By the end of class on **Tuesday, November 15th**

How to submit:

• Submit the materials described below using `~st10/450submit` on **nrs-projects**.

• (This may be submitted by any team member from their personal nrs-projects account, or it may be

submitted from your nrs-projects team account, described below.)

Milestone requirements

- Note that each team now has a team account on **nrs-projects**, in addition to your individual accounts still there from CIS 318; the account names are `450team1` and `450team2`. I will tell you the current password of these accounts in class; one of your first actions as a team should be to determine a different password for this account, and to log onto nrs-projects and to change the team password to that password using the `passwd` command.
  - I will try to log into your team account using the original team password; you will lose some credit on this milestone if I succeed...!
- Later in this handout you will find some ideas for (fictional) project scenarios; you may build off of two of these, or you may craft a different scenario for one or both of your proposed scenario descriptions.
- Create two PDF files `450team-<num>-scenario-1.pdf` and `450team-<num>-scenario-2.pdf` each containing:
  - Which team you are (Team 1 or Team 2), an additional team name if desired, and the names of the team members
  - Your write-up for that scenario (meeting the specifications below).

Scenario write-up specifications

Scenario description

- Each scenario write-up should begin with **at least two full, generous paragraphs** describing that scenario. If it is one of the suggested scenarios, **expand** it appropriately (and, of course, describe it at least as fully if it is a scenario that you are coming up with independently).
  - THESE INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPHS SHOULD *NOT* DESCRIBE DESIRED SOFTWARE OR APPLICATIONS. THEY SHOULD DESCRIBE THE *SCENARIO,* THE *SETTING* FOR YOUR PROJECT.
  - Talk about the scenario -- what is its purpose? Where is it located? What is its (fictitious) history? What are its major day-to-day activities? What are its aspirations? Who are the people involved? These can all be fictitious, but describe them as if they aren't. Give a descriptive "backstory" for the *scenario*.

Categories/kinds of users in that scenario

- An appropriate CIS 450 scenario needs to involve **at least 3 distinct kinds/categories of users**. We discussed how a knowledge management system may be serving the needs of different kinds of users (for a large organization, perhaps management, accounting personnel, and shipping personnel might be examples of 3 distinct kinds/categories of users); we want to include this aspect in this project.

  Determine at least 3 distinct kinds/categories of users in your scenario, and **follow** your introductory paragraphs of general scenario description with a paragraph for **each** of these distinct categories/kinds of users. Include description of the user category and the typical day-to-day activities of people in that category related to this scenario.

  (Something to keep in mind: the hope is that, in CIS 492, you will design applications built atop a single

organizational operational Oracle database for these different categories/classes of users. The hope is that you will design something with some of the aspects of an enterprise information portal for this scenario, with a single, common log-in for all users who will then have made available to them the appropriate applications for a user of that kind/category.)

Description of tacit/explicit knowledge

Describe some examples/kinds of tacit knowledge within this scenario, and describe some examples/kinds of explicit knowledge within this scenario.

How might a knowledge management system be of benefit?

Now make a case for why a knowledge management system might benefit the users within this scenario. How might it help them in advancing their goals? How might it help them in better performing their day-to-day duties?

How feasible would student "clients" be?

Finally, include a paragraph discussing how feasible it would be for the other CIS 450 team to serve occasionally as proxy "clients" for this proposed scenario. They might take example user surveys that your devise -- later, in CIS 492, they might serve as testers for prototype applications. They might do user testing of your opening portal screen this semester. Is there "deep" domain understanding they would need, for this scenario? Why would they be able (or not) to serve as such stand-in "clients"?

Note: I am perfectly fine with the two teams discussing with one another what they might be interested in being "clients" for; if you do have such discussions, let me know that in this paragraph, as knowing that the other team has an interest in serving as the "client" could be a factor in encouraging approval of your project proposal.

Example Project Scenarios

PLEASE NOTE: these are sketchy, bare beginnings! None of these are described in as much depth, as given, as is required for Project Milestone 1! The idea here is to give you some ideas, for you to then expand upon and think about for your write-up. You can also fold, spindle, and/or mutilate them into a scenario of interest. However, note that your project proposal has to be approved, and I reserve the option to not approve a project that I am uncomfortable overseeing; I also reserve the option to modify what you propose.

Crafters' Guild

A group of fans/practitioners of a particular kind of craft hold regular meetings teaching about that craft, as well as periodic craft fairs with booths where instances of that craft can be displayed and possibly sold. They might have periodic lectures/guest speakers as well, and they might have a storefront in town where practitioners can sell their wares on consignment -- but that also has to be staffed and coordinated.

Computer-Topic-X Users Group

The organization here is a group of people interested in a particular computer topic. They hold regular meetings, with guest speakers, might organize a local annual conference, and help others with problems they are having related to that topic. They might advocate/do educational activities to get people to try that topic, install-fests to help people set up particular software on their computer, tutorials to teach people to use that software. They might even develop open-source software in that area, and thus need to coordinate developers, projects, and downloads of software.

Service Business

The organization here is a business that provides a service, rather than a physical good. (Examples: lawn-care service, cleaning business, musical-instrument repair shop, music lessons, etc.) Who provides these services? How are they coordinated? How do people request them? Where do the services get performed? Are there materials to be stored, ordered, kept available, etc.?

Performing Group

A performing group has members who are available to perform gigs or performances. If musical, they might have recordings they'd like to sell -- if other types of performers, they might have videos, t-shirts, or other goods they sell as a sidelight. They also have sets to determine -- what gets done at each performance? -- and practices to coordinate, possibly try-outs and auditions if the performance is dramatic in nature. They also have new works to develop over time.

Political/Special Interest Action Group

This is a group of people with an interest to promote. They may want to educate the public on some topic, they may want to encourage people to vote for or against certain things, they may want to organize petitions or demonstrations or speakers or forums of various kinds. They may want to organize service projects (beach clean-ups for an environmental group, for example), they may want to hold fund-raisers of various kinds, they may want to coordinate mailings.