Software Engineering Homework #5 – due March 28, 2005
Adapted from http://www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs169/handouts/proj5-review.html.

Instructions

The following pages are a design review template. Please follow these directions for filling out this template carefully. Items in italics are information that you are to fill in, beginning with the project name, date, and version number. Use the same version numbering system that we used with the requirements document.

Each team must send a copy of this completed document to barrett@cs.nyu.edu by midnight on the due date. The subject line of the email message should contain only the word “hw5”.
Each group has been assigned to review the design and planning document for one of the other groups. The assignments are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Group</th>
<th>Group You are Assigned to Review</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sched</td>
<td>photo</td>
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<td>photo</td>
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<td>game</td>
<td>books</td>
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<td>books</td>
<td>game</td>
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The documents for each group are available on the course web page. Click on the “Groups” link on the menu bar on the left side of the page. I will send an email to the class email list with the email addresses of the other class members in case you need to contact another group directly.

For this class, the design review serves two purposes. First, it is the last check that projects are addressing a clearly understood problem in a coherent and practical manner. There is great benefit to having more people read and comment on designs. Second, you will be the quality assurance organization for this same project in a later assignment; we will expect you to test that group’s code. This assignment will familiarize you with the other project, and give you an opportunity to have input into their design prior to testing.
Your Project Name
Design Review for Name of Project You are Reviewing
Date
Version major.minor

1 Summary

Here you should give a summary of your design review. This section, which should be relatively short, focuses on the recommendations you consider to be the most important.

2 Questions

At the end of the design document template, there were a number of questions that you should use to guide your review. Please organize your comments as answers to the following questions (which summarize the questions from the design template). Your answers may be of any length, but should be justified by reference to specific parts of the design document (and specification, if appropriate).

1. Are there any inconsistencies in the design? That is, does the document contradict itself?

2. Are there omissions in the design? That is, are there elements that are mentioned but never discussed, or obvious pieces that are missing?

3. Are any parts of the design unclear? The standard should be that given the design document, a competent programmer can code the project. Note that “clear” does not mean that the document must be very detailed. We assume that a decent computer scientist can fill in missing details, provided the overall document is clear enough.

4. Are there technical errors in the design? Is there any statement of fact that you know is false?

5. Has thought been given to testing? How would you test this design? What, if anything, could be done to make the design easier to test?

6. Does the design make realistic assumptions about the environment? That is, will the team have trouble getting access to important external components (e.g., specialized hardware) and are the systems the project needs to interact with suited to the purpose?

7. Does the plan seem realistic? Are tasks at a reasonable level of granularity and is it clear what each task means? Do the time estimates seem appropriate? Do any parts of the plan seem risky in the sense that they are likely to become a bottleneck to further progress?

8. Any other comments?