Software Engineering Final Assignment – due May 10, 2008

Instructions

There are four important parts to the last assignment. Please read carefully.

1. **Performance Evaluation**

   Please email a performance evaluation for yourself and each member of your team to barrett@cs.nyu.edu by midnight on the due date. *Every* member of the team must send me a separate evaluation. Failure to send an evaluation will result in a significant penalty to your individual final grade. These evaluations will be kept confidential. The performance evaluation should include the following information:

   - What were the primary contributions of each team member (both to the documents and the code)?
   - Approximately what percentage of the total work did each team member contribute?
   - How did each team member do at meeting milestones and completing assigned tasks?
   - If you had to give each team member a grade based on the quality of their work, what would it be?

2. **Code**

   Each team must provide a distribution of their final code. This distribution should include a README file with complete instructions on how to build and execute the code. A brief description of how to interact with and use the system should also be included. If you have user/validation tests, include these too. In addition, your distribution should include a final version of your requirements and design documents. If there are features from the requirements or design that were not implemented, make a note of this and explain why.

3. **Demo**

   You will have a computer with access to the internet and space for a poster. Let me know if you need anything else. The poster should include the following:

   (a) A project title
   (b) The names of the students and customers who participated in the project
   (c) Up to 12 pages of information about the project.

Make sure you use at least 40 point font so that people can read your poster easily. The poster should summarize the problem and the solution and be something you can refer to when showing people the project.

At the demo, guests will wander around, and spend about 5 to 15 minutes at each table. Each group should prepare a concise 5-minute summary of the project to deliver to guests (repeatedly). All students must be able to deliver the presentation. I will personally listen to all of you.

The important thing is to *tell your story clearly and concisely.* Assume that your audience does not know who your client is or what they do; you can assume that they are reasonably familiar with software. I recommend that the 5-minute talk include these steps:

(a) Figure out what your story is and describe it. That is, why did the customer want you to do the project?

(b) Describe the customer's specific needs, that is, the project's *key requirements*.

(c) Describe the approach you took. Describe both the business issues and tactics you adopted and the technical analysis or development. Make certain to talk about what was difficult, and explain how you overcame these challenges. That way people will appreciate what you've achieved. Don't talk about trivial or logistical difficulties like accessing a database.

(d) Now, but *not before*, demo what you've achieved.

(e) Conclude by 1) reiterating what you've accomplished and 2) describing how what you've done will be used by the customer.

The challenge is to do this in 5 minutes. Then, if people are further interested they can ask you questions. But it is much better to give brief discussion of your work that triggers the audience's interest than a long discussion that bores them.

Before the show, I suggest you practice your presentation, out loud, by yourself or to each other, so you get the right words in your heads. Make sure you can do it in 5 minutes. If you like, you can prepare a handout people can take with them.

4. **Final Report**

Each team must complete the final project report as explained on the next page.

Final Report for *Name of Project*

1 Overview

Give a 1-2 page overview of your project: what it does and why it is great.

2 Customers

At least one of your customers should have the opportunity to use the completed system. Describe their experience and feedback.

3 Experience

Give a 2-3 page description of how your project turned out. What went especially well? What was most difficult? How did it go compared with how you expected it to go? Did you meet the requirements? Did you follow the design plan and schedule? If not, why? What were the most important problems, in your opinion, through the semester for your project? What is the current set of problems (if any) that must be solved to finish your system? Please discuss each of these remaining problems and give suggestions for solving them.