

CS 221 Group Presentation

Description and Assessment

Purpose

This activity will give you an opportunity to work together to research a topic relevant to software development and share your findings in a short (25–30 minute) presentation. The information shared in class will provide good background knowledge for further study in software development, and researching and developing the presentation will help you develop teamwork and presentation skills.

Task

Form a team of two or three individuals interested in researching a specific topic, preferably from the list of general topics for the course. You may also select a special topic not on the list, but make sure your idea is appropriate for this task by clearing it with me.

Your team will meet outside of class as necessary to research the topic and organize your findings in a manner suitable for a short presentation. You may find that you need to either narrow or broaden the topic to get the right amount of material. Begin your research by meeting with me for some leads and a list of points to include.

Assemble a well-organized, esthetically pleasing presentation to communicate what you have learned with the class, and rehearse giving it until the timing is right. You may opt to present as a team or choose a spokesperson. Before presenting with the class, meet with me for a “dress rehearsal.”

Assessment

I will assign a score of 0–20 based on the criteria below. The class as a whole will give a rating of 1-5, and team member evaluations will provide another 1-5 points, for a total of 30 possible.

Assessment points, each weighted equally:

Quality of sources and accuracy of information portrayed: At least three distinct sources of information, none of them being Wikipedia or any other wiki. Note that all sources must be acknowledged and no content may be plagiarized.

Organization of the presentation: Information should appear in a logical progression with appropriate introduction and outlines as needed.

Quality of presentation: Slides are not cluttered, color scheme and media usage clarify rather than impede communication, timing is correct, and vocal delivery is clear.