

Group Project

Current Trends in Information Technology

Due: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 by 11:59pm to Blackboard

Learning Activity

Students will write a research paper relevant to a current trend in Information Technology. Through the process of constructing a research paper, the students will gather different views, evidence and facts, and work collaboratively to interpret the information into their own words at an undergraduate level. The group project will assess the skills students have acquired in the course as well as expand their knowledge of current technology.

Key Learning Objectives

- (1) Student will be able to present a researchable question and explain its significance to Information Technology.
- (2) Students will be able to collect, organize and cite research data.
- (3) Student will be able to cite sources in APA format.
- (4) Student will be able to critically evaluate the various trends in information technology.
- (5) Students will be able work collaborative among a group of their peers.

General Project Requirements

Students will need to complete all of the following requirements in order to earn full credit.

- (1) Students will work in groups of 4-5 to complete a research project.

Renee Burrell
OMDE 610 9040
March 9, 2014

- (2) Students will select a topic relevant to a current trend in Information Technology (i.e., Cybersecurity, virtual desktop, etc.)
- (3) All information must be in APA format (i.e. in-text citations, bibliography)
- (4) Students must provide 3-5 additional resources (i.e., webpage, journals, texts) to be used to support topic in addition to the course textbook(s)
- (5) 800-1000
- (6) Students must use their group area on Blackboard to communicate and collaborate.
Group assignments can be found in Blackboard under Assignment 2 Groups.
- (7) Group Project must be submitted to Blackboard no later than:
11:59pm on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.

Paper Requirements

- (1) Formatting requirements
 - a. Title Page (with Title and Group Member names)
 - b. 3-5 pages in length (not including title page or bibliography)-12 point Times New Roman, double spaced
 - c. Pages must be numbered
 - d. Clear introduction, middle, and conclusion
 - e. Proper use of in-text citations in APA format
 - f. A Bibliography in APA format at conclusion of paper

Important Deadlines

What's Due	Due Date
------------	----------

Renee Burrell
OMDE 610 9040
March 9, 2014

Sign Up for a Group via Blackboard	February 28, 2014
Pick a topic and have ONE group member post to Group discussion board area for approval by Professor Burrell	March 4, 2014
Check Point # 1 with Professor Burrell (in-class)	March 10, 2014
Check Point # 2 with Professor Burrell (in-class)	March 21, 2014
Submit Assignment to Blackboard	March 25, 2014

Please see Blackboard for more information on how to complete the tasks below (if you're viewing this document via the web you can click on the link below).

- [How to Join a Group on Blackboard](#)
- [Submitting An Assignment to Blackboard](#)
- [Using Group Tools](#)

Technology for Activity

The learning activity will be facilitated through Blackboard, online databases and word processing. Blackboard is a learning management system that facilitates active learning while adhering to tech savvy students; and online instructors. Researchers Al-Busaidi and Al-Shihi, suggest “LMSs provide essential advantages to any educational institutions in general and instructor in specific” (2010, p. 3). The flexibility of Blackboard affords students the opportunity to attend class at their convenience, and manage their schedule. Blackboard facilitates individual and group activities and makes online courses and synchronous curricula easy to manage. Students are able to interact from different locations across the globe. From an instructors’ perspective, Blackboard will be used to track student progress, investigate learning outcomes,

Renee Burrell
OMDE 610 9040
March 9, 2014

and determine what areas need improvement. Additionally, students will conduct online database searches and retrieve published information sources such as periodicals, magazines, journals and newspapers. Finally, students will use word processing software (i.e. Microsoft Word) to compose, edit and format the research paper.

Cognitive Learning Activity

The Current Trends in Information Technology activity is a cognitive learning exercise whereby students perform logical operations to construct their research paper. The activity is organized and structured to encourage cognitive processes. A cognitive process organizes mental structures that control interpretation and the storage of information (Mitnik, Nussbaum, & Recabarren, 2009). Students will use cognitive processes to select a technology, research publications for empirical support, develop a thesis and organize and construct the paper.

Piaget (1966) posits the development of cognitive processes is the result of interaction between stimuli and the organism. The objectives and requirements involved in this activity will produce the appropriate behaviors, knowledge, and operation structures which will enhance the student cognitive processes. Furthermore, the collaboration within the assigned groups gives students experience in planning and managing time, simplifying complex tasks, and giving and receiving feedback. The collaborative nature of this project will improve the students' analogy capabilities (Tzurriel & Shamir, 2007).

Group Project

Current Trends in Information Technology

RUBRIC

Category	Exceeds Standard	Meets Standard	Nearly Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard
Research Question	Presentation is balanced with relevant and legitimate information that supports the central argument. Paper includes an introduction, thesis and conclusion.	Presentation contains a reasonable amount of information to support the central argument while displaying evidence of a basic analysis of the thesis.	Presentation supports the main argument with a basic/general analysis and provides few insights.	Presentation does not clearly support the main argument. Information is vague and confusing.
Organization	Information is very organized with well-constructed paragraphs and subheadings.	Information is organized with well-constructed paragraphs.	Information is organized, but paragraphs are not well-constructed.	The information appears to be disorganized
Quality of Information	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It includes several supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. It provides 1-2 supporting details and/or examples.	Information clearly relates to the main topic. No details and/or examples are given.	Information has little or nothing to do with the main topic.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors	A few grammatical spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Collaboration	Routinely provides useful ideas when participating in the group and in classroom discussion. A definite leader who contributes a lot of effort.	Usually provides useful ideas when participating in the group and in classroom discussion. A strong group member who tries hard!	Sometimes provides useful ideas when participating in the group and in classroom discussion. A satisfactory group member who does what is required.	Rarely provides useful ideas when participating in the group and in classroom discussion.
APA	All sources used for quotes and facts	All sources used for quotes and facts are	Most sources used for quotes and facts	Many sources used for quotes and facts are less

Renee Burrell
 OMDE 610 9040
 March 9, 2014

	are credible and cited correctly.	credible and most are cited correctly.	are credible and cited correctly.	than credible (suspect) and/or are not cited correctly.
Length and Format	Double-spaced, 12 point font. Title. Name, course, and section. Appropriately 800-1000 words	Double-spaced, 12 point font. Almost no problems with title, font. 800-1000 words	Very few errors in title, font, and spacing 800-1000 words (+/-150).	Extensive problems with titles, font, and spacing. 800-1000 words (+/-200).

Created using Rubricstar.com

References

- Al-Busaidi, K., & Al-Shihi, H. (2010). Instructors' acceptance of learning management systems: A theoretical framework. *Communications of the IBIMA*, 1-10.
- Feuerstein, R., Rand, Y., Hoffman, M. B., & Miller, R. (1980). Instrumental enrichment, Baltimore: University Park Press.
- Piaget, J. (1966). Necessité et signification des recherches comparatives en psychologie génétique. *International Journal of Psychology*, 1, 3–13.
- Mitnik, R., Nussbaum, M., & Recabarren, M. (2009). Developing Cognition with Collaborative Robotic Activities. *Journal Of Educational Technology & Society*, 12(4), 317-330.
- Tzuriel, D., & Shamir, A. (2007). The effects of Peer Mediation with Young Children (PMYC) on children's cognitive modifiability. *British Journal of Educational Psychology*, 77(1), 143–165.