

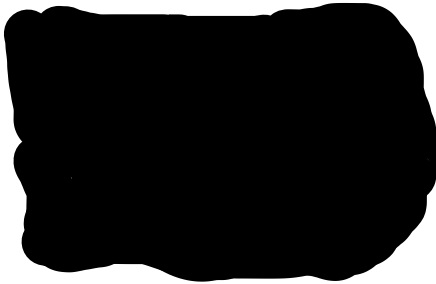
# Assessment Brief Proforma

## Assessment 2

<b>1. Module number</b>	INF09801
<b>2. Module title</b>	Project Management for Information Systems
<b>3. Module leader</b>	Pritam Chita
<b>4. Tutor with responsibility for this Assessment</b> Student's first point of contact	Pritam Chita
<b>5. Assessment</b>	Assessment Two
<b>6. Weighting</b>	50%
<b>7. Size and/or time limits for assessment</b>	2500 words
<b>8. Deadline of submission</b>	3pm on Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 (week 14)
<b>9. Arrangements for submission</b>	All submissions MUST be submitted through Turnitin. If this is not possible, email the module leader well in advance
<b>10. Assessment Regulations</b>	There are no exemptions from the University's regulations.
<b>11. The requirements for the assessment</b>	See below.
<b>12. Special instructions</b>	See below.
<b>13. Return of work and feedback</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
<b>14. Assessment criteria</b>	See below.

# INF09801

## Project Management for Information Systems



This is a formal piece of work and is worth 50% towards your final assessment for this module.

This is an individual assignment. Copying and collusion are serious offences and will be dealt with through the Academic Conduct Guidelines.

## Requirements for the Assessment

You are required to write a 2500-word journal article in an academic style on **ONE** of the specific titles listed later in this document.

This will involve undertaking independent research of theory (e.g. books, journal articles, internet) and practice (e.g. examples and case studies). Any Information Systems or Software Engineering type Journal (<https://www.springer.com/journal/10664>) which is available online can be used for examples of the style of writing to be adopted.

You may consult any of the module materials, resources or any other relevant material but you will find that they will need to be expanded on by your own research. You must undertake your own research to find journal articles and cases. Wholesale repetition of examples given in the lectures or on Moodle or discussed in the tutorials will not attract any marks.

**Caution:** Note that it is not necessary to describe in detail and repeat whole elements of the lecture notes or materials already provided. You must assume that your reader already has knowledge of the lecture notes and previously provided material. Submissions which simply repeat this material will not be viewed kindly and will be marked down. Similarly, simple descriptive accounts of approaches, tools & techniques etc. are not enough: you need to demonstrate an understanding of their application to the area under consideration.

Do please note that all sources that you refer to must be formally acknowledged in the list of references as well as being cited appropriately within the body of the essay. See below as well as the details to assist you contained within the Student Study & Referencing Guides that have previously been provided to you by the School and by any guidance previously issued by the Module Leader.

You should consult peer-reviewed academic journals and papers. These should form the bulk of your references. Submissions that rely heavily on trade journals, web-sites and consultancy white-papers, and Wikipedia etc. will be penalised. This is a third year level assessment and your submission should be presented as an academic journal article which requires the citation of articles within peer-reviewed academic journals.

## Assessment Report Structure

- **Title:** clearly identifying selected topic and area of attention.
- **Abstract:** Short and succinct outline that also includes the outcome of your work
- **Introduction:** Provides a contextual outline as well as introducing the work that you will be doing.
- **Main Text:** This section can be sub-divided as you see fit and should contain your in-depth discussion of the topic. It should include your exploration, synthesis and application of the main ideas and concepts within the wider software project management context. Your chosen examples should be illustrated with appropriate diagrams, tables and figures.
- **Conclusion:** Brings together the main points and summarise as well as pointing out difficulties and deficiencies, caveats and cautions in the analysis and obstacles to a better analysis/outcome.
- **Appendices:** You may include appendices where it is necessary to provide further evidence or explanation. You may use appendices to justify the arguments in the main text but they cannot earn you marks in their own right.

## Assessment Submission Details

The deadline displayed above is the official deadline irrespective of whatever settings are visible on Turnitin which may be set for other reasons. A Turnitin similarity index of less than 12% is required and similarity indexes substantially greater than this will be carefully scrutinised and may be referred to the Academic Conduct Officer

**General submission rules:** If you have any problems with this assessment, please contact the Module Leader, preferably well before the submission date.

**Style and format notes:** The report will be marked anonymously. Please do not put your name anywhere on the document, but you **must** provide your matriculation number on the front page.

**Word length:** The target length of the main text is 2500 words +/- 10%. A report of less than this length is unlikely to contain adequate content, which will reduce the marks available. Word count should be displayed on the front page. Word count starts at the first word of the introduction right through to the last word of the conclusion. Tables and appendices are not included in any word count.

**Page layout:** Submissions must be properly formatted and in portrait mode and be in Arial font, 11 pt., 1.5 line spaced.

**References:** The author-date system of source citation **must** be used in the text, e.g. (Smith, 2009) and your paper must meet recognised standards of referencing. You must use the APA referencing standard as used by the School of Computing and guidelines are available on Moodle and on the University Intranet here: <https://my.napier.ac.uk/Academic-Study-Skills/Pages/Referencing-Guidelines.aspx>

Please do NOT use footnotes for references<sup>1</sup>. All citations in the text must be fully referenced in a list at the end. Citations that are not fully referenced at the end will result in a substantial deduction of marks overall and may lead to the award of a fail grade.

**Illustrations and tables, appendices:** Captions for tables and figures should use an alternative font to the main text (eg. 10 point bold). They should be referred to in the text using Arabic numerals, e.g. Figure 1, Figure 2, Table 1, Table 2, etc., in order of appearance.

**An assessment which does not meet the above specification may not be accepted for marking and will certainly lose marks.**

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<sup>1</sup> Footnotes are best used for short explanations of specific points which would break up the flow of your argument if included in the main text. Some readers will read them, some ignore them.

## Assessment Advice

- Pay close attention to the marking schema and make sure you address all sections and use this to plan your submission. The marking schema shows the relative weighting of each section e.g., the “Discussion & Analysis of the main topic under consideration” section is weighted as 35 out of 100, so it might be reasonably expected to take about a third of your total effort and to contain about 30% of the total words within the main text.
- You should avoid simply listing lots of items either as bullet points or in short paragraphs. You should also avoid jumping from one item to another without any explanation of why you are moving on or what the relevance of the next item is. It is essential to focus on two or three aspects and address them in depth rather than to string together a large number of discrete items. Failure to follow this guidance may result in a substantial deduction of marks overall.
- You should also be presenting a balanced appraisal which involves including an analysis of the different sides of an argument.
- In many instances such as when analysing Risk or KM or Metrics etc., you need to include an assessment of the implications of your consideration of these elements with regards to the delivery of software.
- Finally, as you are aware there are some “essay mills” such as UK Essays and others that purport to provide “assignment help”. Any evidence of the use of these websites (even an item in the reference list) will be penalised and reported to the Academic Conduct Officer.

## Assessment Topic Selection

Please find below specific titles drawn from different elements of the course & lectures.

You must choose **only one specific title** (from the 11 listed).

Lectures & Course Elements	Specific Titles – Choose from a topic in this column  SELECT FROM THIS COLUMN
Risk Management, Metrics and Software Estimation	1. An individual's assessments of risk within a project are particularly variable. Critically evaluate whether human and behavioural elements can impact risk assessment on IS/IT projects and whether this might contribute to poor software delivery practice.
	2. Analyse the process of developing software estimates and explain the problems in attempting these challenging tasks as well as the value of a metrics based approach.
	3. Provide a <u>balanced</u> appraisal of the view that software maturity models provide a useful assessment framework to help improve software development practices.
	4. Discuss what is meant by the PRINCE2 concept of “Controlled Environments” and if organisations still need to achieve the levels of governance and compliance that is suggested by the term.

Lectures & Course Elements	Specific Titles – Choose from a topic in this column  SELECT FROM THIS COLUMN
The nature of Agile software projects	5. “The Agile Manifesto is a licence to code from the hip”. Evaluate this statement with regards to the problems incurred in moving away from “big upfront design” to a more iterative and incremental approach.
	6. Provide a <b><u>balanced</u></b> appraisal of increases in effectiveness of software projects (perception vs actual) that have arisen due to the utilisation of agile methodologies.  Only select <b><u>one</u></b> methodology to discuss.
Project Leadership, Teams & Group Dynamics	7. Some programmers view group development and team working with scepticism. They were recruited for their programming skills – not their social skills.  Evaluate the demands for these more behavioural and personal skills sets in the light of agile approaches where the emphasis is on collaboration and teamwork.
	8. Organisational culture, empowerment and trust are important factors for agile project success. Discuss how software teams in particular are affected by <b><u>ONE</u></b> of these factors.

**Matriculation Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Module: INF09801****PMIS****Overall grade**

<b>Marking Schema</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>A/B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Introduction and contextual discussion	10							
Discussion & Analysis of the main topic under consideration.	35							
Exploration, synthesis and application of the ideas and concepts within the wider software project management theme.	30							
Conclusions, critical evaluation and appraisal. Research activity	15							
Presentation and readability, Organisation,	10							

Marks	A/B - 80+% Exemplary	C - 70% Excellent	D - 60% Good	E - 50% Satisfactory	F – 40% Acceptable	G – 30% Unacceptable
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<b>Comment grid. This work:</b>	<b>Ex</b>	<b>Gd</b>	<b>OK</b>	<b>Pr</b>	<b>Un</b>	
Relevant and to specification						Little relevance and not to spec.
Treats topics in depth.						Superficial
Is evaluative and analytical.						Descriptive only
Logical argument justified and illustrated						Rambling and lacks a theme Unsubstantiated, not illustrated
Impersonal/academic writing style						Personal and informal
Is fluent, good spelling. succinct and grammatical						Repetitive & ungrammatical with many spelling/typing errors
Well organised and is set out in an appropriate format						Poor structure and non-standard format
Uses a sufficient and good range of appropriate sources						Inadequate and inappropriate sources
Consistently applies an approved referencing system & bibliography						Incorrect system and few citations & no bibliography

Comments	Ex: Excellent	Gd: Good	OK Acceptable	Pr Poor	Un Unacceptable
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Other comments: