

Project Management - Course Outline

ENGR 301: 2015 Trimester 1

This document sets out the workload and assessment requirements for **ENGR 301**. It also provides contact information for staff involved in the course. If the contents of this document are altered during the course, you will be advised of the change by an announcement in lectures and/or on the course web site. A printed copy of this document is held in the School Office.

The Course

ENGR 301 is a course in basic project management. It runs in Trimester 1 from March 2nd to June 5th 2015. It prepares you with the methods, tools and techniques that are used in industry, business, and commerce. These tools and techniques will help you to manage and control all your academic assignments and research as well as all projects in your professional and private life.

The course introduces the project management topics of Requirements Engineering, Project Initiation Documents, Life-Cycle Models, Risk Management, Planning project activities for effective production of deliverables, Monitoring and Controlling project execution, Team Building and Team Management and Project Communication.

There is an emphasis on being 'Agile' and adapting to changes in real-life events.

You will record your learning in a Research Log (how will be explained in class) and from this you will develop skills in Reflective Thinking. The record in your Research Log may form part of your final assessment.

Lectures

Lectures sessions for ENGR 301 are

on Tuesdays in Murphy 632 starting at 10:00 am,

on Wednesdays in Murphy 632 starting at 10:00 am

on Thursdays in Murphy 632 starting at 10:00 am.

It is good practice to be ready to start on time - this means getting to the lecture room 5 minutes before the start time and preparing yourself ready to start on time.

You should aim to attend all classes and actively take part in discussions to maximise your learning from the course, as there is a strong emphasis on group learning and there may be Guest Speakers from companies in Wellington.

The Lecture schedule can be viewed at https://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/ENGR301_2015T1/LectureSchedule

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course you should be able to:

1. Analyse client's requirements and define projects to meet them in a Project Initiation Document - BE graduate attributes 1(a), 1(b);
2. Handle uncertainty by constructing risk registers and using them to manage projects - BE graduate attribute 3(e);
3. Justify choices in team building and team management - BE graduate attribute 2(a);
4. Make good decisions by thinking reflectively and constructing reflective reports - BE graduate attribute 2(b);
5. Understand the concepts of Project Planning, Monitoring & Controlling and Project Communications - BE graduate attributes 1(b), 3(d).

Learning Objectives 1 & 4 are assessed by Assignments 1, 2 & 3; Learning Objectives 2, 3 and 5 are assessed by In-Class Tests 1 & 2 and Assignment 3.

Assessment

Assessment of your learning of ENGR301 material is in five parts: 3 Assignments and 2 In-Class Tests. All parts contribute to your overall grade for ENGR 301 based on the following weightings:

| Item | Weight | Due Date |
|---|--------|------------------------|
| Assignment 1 Personal Project Initiation Document | 15% | Thursday 26 March 2015 |
| In-Class Test #1 of 1 hour | 20% | Thursday 30 April 2015 |
| Assignment 2 WaiNZ PID | 25% | Thursday 14 May 2015 |
| In-Class Test #2 of 1 hour | 20% | Thursday 28 May 2015 |
| Assignment 3 Reflective Report | 20% | Thursday 04 June 2015 |

The Assignments

Instructions for the three assignments are outlined as follows and will be amplified in lectures:

Assignment 1 - You will construct a personal Project Initiation Document (PID) in which you will state your personal Requirements Analysis and your Business Case for studying this course. You will research and build an Initial Plan and Risk Register for your learning of project management material during this ENGR301 Course. Your PID content should be approximately four pages in length using font size 12 point and lines spaced at 1.5 to allow marking.

Hard copy of this assignment is to be handed at the start of the Lecture session, and submitted online by 10:00 am, on Thursday 26 March 2015.

Assignment 2 - You will work in groups of 4 to construct a PID on the WaiNZ RiverWatch project according to Client requirements. This PID must comprise the Client's Requirements, an outline Business Case, and your group's plan for creating the WaiNZ products, including plans for Risk Management, Quality Management and Project Communications. The PD content should be approximately six pages in length using font size 12 point and lines spaced at 1.5 to allow marking.

Hard copy of this assignment is to be handed in at the start of the Lecture session, and submitted on line by 10:00am, on Thursday 14 May 2015.

Assignment 3 - You will write a personal reflective report of approximately 1,200 words on what you have learned about project management by doing this course and why this is both important and relevant. Your report is to review the learning requirements you stated in your personal PID in Assignment 1 to identify what you specifically learned about these and how you learned them by doing this course. It is then to identify any requirements you missed, how you corrected this (or not) and what this experience taught you. Finally you are to conclude by identifying your most important and relevant learning and how you will apply this in ENGR302 and other future opportunities you may have. Your report is to be laid out in sections with headings and paragraphs should use font size 12 point and lines spaced at 1.5 to allow marking.

Hard copy of this assignment is to be handed in at the start of the Lecture session, and submitted on line by 10:00am, on Thursday 4 June 2015.

Penalties for Late Submission of Assignments

Late submissions will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and after prior consultation with the course coordinator. Marks will be deducted 10% for each day late.

The Tests

The 2 tests take place in class and replace a formal 2 hour examination during Victoria University's examination period. They are timed to support Assignments 1 and 2. This should minimize your time and effort in revisiting subject material and maximize the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge at the end of this course.

Bachelor of Engineering students should be aware that copies of their assessed work may be retained for inspection by an accreditation panel.

Workload

In order to maintain satisfactory progress in ENGR 301, you should plan to spend **at least 10 hours per week** on ENGR 301. A large part of your time will be needed for study/research and making notes on what you discover, A realistic breakdown for these hours would be:

- 3 hours in class learning,
- 5 hours each week reading, thinking and making notes to build up your knowledge content and problem solving ability,
- 2 hours a week working specifically on your next Assignment.

Textbook

The textbook for ENGR 301 is:

Schwalbe, K., (2010), *Information Technology Project Management*, Boston USA, Course Technology. ISBN: 978-0-324-78692-1

Two further books to refer to are:

Hughes, B., Ireland, R., West, B., Smith, N. and Shepherd, D.I., (2004), *Project Management for IT-Related Projects*, UK, BCS.

Bazerman, M.H. and Moore, D., (7th Edition 2009), *Judgement in Managerial Decision Making*, USA, John Wiley & Sons.

You will need to make notes on these and other materials during the ENGR 301 course.

Mandatory Requirements

You must keep a record of your day-to-day learning during ENGR 301 in a Research Log (How to keep your Research Log will be explained in class).

- You must submit reasonable attempts to the 3 assignments and the 2 tests.
- You must not plagiarise.

Passing ENGR 301

To pass ENGR 301, a student must satisfy mandatory requirements and gain at least a **C-** grade overall.

Staff

The course coordinator for ENGR 301 is Lawrence Collingbourne, his contact details are:

- Lawrence Collingbourne
- [Cotton 337](#)
- +64 4 463 5177
- lawrence.collingbourne@ecs.vuw.ac.nz

School of Engineering and Computer Science

The School office is located on level three of the Cotton Building ([Cotton 358](#)).

The notice board for ENGR 301 is located on the second floor of the Cotton Building.

Announcements and Communication

The main means of communication outside of lectures will be the ENGR 301 web area at http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/ENGR301_2015T1/. There you will find, among other things, this document, the [lecture schedule](#) and [assignment handouts](#), and the [ENGR 301 Forum](#). The forum is a web-based bulletin board system. Questions and comments can be posted to the forum, and staff will read these posts and frequently respond to them.

Policies and penalties for late submission

Plagiarism

Working Together and Plagiarism

We encourage you to discuss the principles of the course and assignments with other students, to help and seek help with programming details, problems involving the lab machines. However, any work you hand in must be your own work.

The [School policy on Plagiarism](#) (claiming other people's work as your own) is available from the course home page. Please read it. We will penalise anyone we find plagiarising, whether from students currently doing the course, or from other sources. Students who knowingly allow other students to copy their work may also be penalised. If you have had help from someone else (other than a tutor), it is always safe to state the help that you got. For example, if you had help from someone else in writing a component of your code, it is not plagiarism as long as you state (eg, as a comment in the code) who helped you in writing the method.

Withdrawal

The last date for withdrawal from ENGR 301 with entitlement to a refund of tuition fees is Friday 13 March 2015. The last date for withdrawal without being regarded as having failed the course is Friday 15 May 2015 -- though later withdrawals may be approved by the Dean in special circumstances.

Rules & Policies

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study>.

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress>.

The University's statutes and policies are available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>. except qualification

statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar> (See Section C).

Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic>

All students are expected to be familiar with the following regulations and policies, which are available from the school web site:

Grievances

Student and Staff Conduct

Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities

Student Support

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Dates and Deadlines including Withdrawal dates

School Laboratory Hours and Rules

Printing Allocations

Expectations of Students in ECS courses

The School of Engineering and Computer Science strives to anticipate all problems associated with its courses, laboratories and equipment. We hope you will find that your courses meet your expectations of a quality learning experience.

If you think we have overlooked something or would like to make a suggestion feel free to talk to your course organiser or lecturer.

[Course Outline as PDF](#)
