

## COMPUTER-SUPPORTED CO-OPERATIVE WORKING

### Group Project (sem. 2)

This document describes the course-work to be completed by the students who are taking the module on CSCW in the academic year 2013-2014.

**Mark component: The course-work will account for 50% of the students mark. The remaining 50% will be an oral examination and individual discussion of the project.**

**The course work will be marked as a group work<sup>1</sup>**

Learning outcomes: the project is designed to give students first-hand experience of a community building exercise. They will learn how to apply a community-centred development approach, analyse and interpret data within the theoretical frameworks introduced in the course, and write an evaluation report. Students will be exposed to typical group work dynamics, and will learn how to share information and co-ordinate tasks.

Deadline: May 30<sup>th</sup> - the final deliverable will be e-mailed to [menendez@disi.unitn.it](mailto:menendez@disi.unitn.it). Please e-mail one document PDF max 20 pages. Deliverables received after this date will NOT be marked.

### Objectives

The assignment consists of an action research project aimed at increasing participation in the smart-campus community. The objective is to develop and implement some strategies to establish a strong and self-sustainable community for the smartcampus project. Following the hourglass approach (see slide in the course-home page), the students will concentrate on the “use” part of the model. They will need to understand the different functions that the community members can play (see example personas in the course-home page) and highlight new ones. The final report will contain a plan for community building, a description of the strategies implemented, and a reflection on the results achieved.

### Methodology

The project consists of the following activities

- I. Group formation. Participants will form their group and exploit the team formation framework to guarantee success.
- II. Problem setting and action planning: Due date April 7. The students will individually play all possible roles they feel comfortable with: using the apps, contributing content, reflecting on new design possibilities, and actively contributing ideas or code (students interested in code development should

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<sup>1</sup> The project will include both individual and group activities. Students are required to keep evidence of their individual work which will be marked for completeness and accuracy in case of discrepancy with the group-work. Students will be invited to evaluate each group member contribution including their own, at the end of the project. Evidence of exceptional performance or sub-average contribution will be taken into consideration in the final mark.

contact Silvia Bordin bordin@ by March 31 to allow organization of specific training). They will analyse the current state of the community, by checking other people contributions on the apps, on the forum and in the social networks. They will invite other people to try out smart-campus, collect and document their opinions. Each individual will reflect on potentials and problems related to the specific roles and share this knowledge with the rest of the group (the group is responsible for defining a process for knowledge sharing). Then the group will identify one or more roles of interest they want to concentrate on during the course-work. Based on this analysis, the students will define a plan of action for community building. They will present their plan to the class on April 7<sup>2</sup>, in the form of a short presentation, containing:

- Rationale of the problem,
- Clear description of the intervention
- Expected outcomes (advantages and drawbacks).

Each group will have 10 minutes for presentation and will receive feedback on how to progress. The best ideas will be given direct support from the lab for implementation. The presentation will be marked and account for 10% of the course-work mark

- III. Intervention phase. The group will implement their intervention and monitor the results. The students will check, fine tune and eventually modify the intervention based on the community response.
- IV. Report writing. The group will produce a 20 pages (max) report of the project. Report writing is both an individual and a group activity. All members are expected to contribute to it and the report will be marked as a group deliverable not as a collection of chapters authored by different people. The report will be composed of:
  - Executive summary (1 page stating the main findings and recommendation form your study)
  - Related work (literature review on similar studies)
  - Objectives (stating and justifying the objectives of the study)
  - Methodology (clear description of the procedures)
  - Results (clear report of what was achieved during the study)

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<sup>2</sup> Each group will have 10 minutes for presentation and receive feedback on how to progress. The best ideas will be given direct support from the lab for implementation. The presentation will be marked and account for 10% of the course-work mark

- Discussion (critical reflection on the project, suggestion for further research)
- Deliverables: a paper copy of the report and a CD rom including, Interviews transcripts, and an electronic copy of the report – Due Date

May 30: Final report due.

June 9: first oral examination: individual colloquia with the students based on the course-work.

#### Help and contact information

The work will be carried out independently by the students. However, a part of each lecture will be devoted to Q&A about the course-work. It is of utmost importance to the success of the project that each member of the group contributes to the work. In case of problems and conflicts which students are unable to deal with independently, they are invited to e-mail Prof. De Angeli ([deangeli@disi.unitn.it](mailto:deangeli@disi.unitn.it), cc [menendez@disi.unitn.it](mailto:menendez@disi.unitn.it)), copying **each group** member in the e-mail. People who did NOT contribute to the group work will receive a lower mark (up to 0 in case of no contribution at all).

#### Marking scheme

10% Presentation

30% Theoretical framing

40% Methodological approach

20% Originality and creativity