IS Project (Bachelor & Master): Learning Materials for Qualitative Research Method

Including practical example based on a cultural conflict study

Project scope

A team of students is expected to revise and improve (e-)learning materials on how to conduct qualitative research and organize a small study on cultural conflict that includes following tasks:

1) Materials improvement.

   a. Revise and improve the existing guidelines (Word documents and Moodle elements), which should, at least, cover the following items:

      i. Case Study Guideline improvement;

      ii. Ethnography Guideline improvement;

      iii. Interview Guideline improvement;

      iv. Video development (minimum 1 video for Case Study and 1 video for Ethnography sections);

      v. Templates (re-)development: interview transcript, field memo, interview report and research report.

   b. Students are required to go through the materials and make improvement, in terms of:

      i. Quality of content: adding more reliable/reputable sources (and replacing the non-reliable ones);

      ii. Structure: orthography, language style consistency, layout (table, figure);

      iii. Citation: style consistency, fixing errors, making sure the references are all listed and available in Moodle.

2) Small study on culture conflict.

   a. Students will conduct a small study by organizing interviews (with 8-10 interviewees) to investigate how cultural conflict influences team performance;

   b. The interviewees will be the students from the previous IS project in WS19/20 and SS19. The interviews will be conducted virtual, and the analysis will be done with an analysis tool (Atlas.ti);

c. Students are expected to apply the "Interview Guidelines" to conduct this study and –by doing so – improve the content of the guidelines based on their own interview observations and experience.

d. The end result of this study will be a "Research Report" (10-15 pages long).

Project team

➢ All the participating students (Bachelor and Master) will be grouped into a single project team of 4-6 members. If the participating students exceed this number, it would be possible to form two separate teams.

➢ The students in each team will be further divided into sub-teams, which allows the accountability and responsibility for the given tasks to be clearly defined.

➢ Master students will have a larger number of tasks (than Bachelor students) and will take leadership roles in managing the sub-teams and conducting the quality assurance of the deliverables.

Quality of Deliverables

➢ The students are expected to deliver the text and video material, which must be prepared in English.

➢ The quality of the deliverables must meet scientific standards:

- Students are expected to only use highly reputed and highly cited sources to develop the deliverables. Failing to do so will result in a lower grade.

- In order to increase the results' quality, the team members will be subject to a peer-review approach. In other words, individual students will review the work of their colleagues (including their active participation) and provide feedback. This will be done twice throughout the IS project.

➢ All group deliverables must be delivered to an e-learning Platform (Moodle). The students are expected to embed their results into an existing qualitative research course already containing learning materials (guidelines, videos, etc.). Furthermore, the students are expected to significantly improve the existing interview learning materials.

Project Milestones

➢ There will be 4 (four) <u>graded</u> project milestone meetings with the project sponsors (lecturers) and the participating students (see section "Project milestone" below):

➢ Attendance is not mandatory; but submitting you results in advance (at least one week prior to the milestone's scheduled date) is obligatory. Missing the submissions will result in individuals failing the project.

➢ Students are strongly recommended to attend these milestone meetings. By participating, they receive feedback on whether their task is being carried out as expected and the anticipated good quality.

➢ Missing the milestone meetings and/or providing poor quality results to an intermediate milestone will affect individuals' grading and, in extreme cases, result them failing the project.

➢ You do not need to prepare a comprehensive set of slides for each Milestone meeting; few simple summary slides are sufficient.

Project milestones

1st Milestone: Scope Planning	2nd Milestone: Scope Outlining	3rd Milestone: Scope Verification	4th Milestone: Final Submission
• ca. 3 weeks after the kick-off meeting • define and agree on the project's scope • specify the deliverables per item • specifiy the individual work packages • assign sub-teams • prepare a responsibility assignment matrix (RACI matrix)	• ca. 2 weeks after 1st Milestone meeting • discuss detailed outline of each work package • each sub-team must provide at least one developed example of a work package's content	• ca. 3 weeks before the final submission • caution: group deliverables must be uploaded 1 week before the meeting for reviewing • present deliverables and discuss the project's achievements • after the meeting, students will have 3 weeks to improve their final submission	• final presentation of the project results (PPT plus verbal delivery) • all team members must attend

Project Grading

The final grading will be based on the sum of your team performance across the individual milestones:

1) Milestone-01: Scope Planning (10%)
2) Milestone-02: Scope Outlining (10%)
3) Milestone-03: Scope Verification (20%)
4) Milestone-04: Final Submission (60%)

Project Registration

Interested Bachelor and Master students (or groups of students) can apply for this project by submitting a) a *current grade transcript* and b) a *brief motivational letter* before **Wednesday, 06.05.2020, 23:59**. Please send your application, including the relevant documents (in PDF format), via email to **Anna Khodijah** (anna.khodijah@uni-due.de), using the subject line **SITM IS Project – SS 2020**. Shortly after the submission deadline, you will receive information via email about your acceptance and the date of the initial kick-off meeting for this project.