



## GRADUATION PROJECT DS498

### I- Basic Course Information

Programme(s) on which the course is given:	Operations Research and Decision Support
Major or minor element of program:	Major
Department(s) offering the program(s):	Operations Research and Decision Support
Department offering the course:	Operations Research and Decision Support
Academic level:	400 Level
Semester in which course is offered:	First and Second Semester
Credit Hours:	6

### II- Introduction

The graduation project will provide all students with a culminating activity that demonstrates the skills of combining research, writing, implementation and oral presentation/demonstration in a multidisciplinary project. It also gives students an opportunity outside the classroom to integrate their various courses of study with their individual interests.

In order to graduate from any program in the faculty, a student shall complete a project in one or more areas of concentrated study under the guidance and supervision of the faculty. The purpose of the project is to challenge the student to go beyond his/her educational program. It is an opportunity for the student to expand his/her personal knowledge to real life situations that will promote lifelong learning.

To complete the graduation project, students will need to demonstrate self-initiative. This project is student driven. Sponsors, teachers and other resource people are available to assist students; the students must initiate any request for support. This approach to the graduation project is designed to prepare the student for future endeavors in post-secondary education or work.

### III- Student Responsibilities

The student is responsible for:

1. Selecting a project
2. Selecting the Supervisor
3. Scheduling time to complete the project
4. Completing requirements on time.
5. Seeking help when needed.



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6. Utilize the resources available at the Faculty.

### **IV- Project Requirements**

1. Each project has maximum of 6 students to work on it.
2. The project should have at least one supervisor from the student's Major Department
3. Project documentation should be delivered on a submission date along with a CD containing the Implementation of the project.
4. Part of the project should contain implementation. Graduation projects can not be research projects.
5. Data used in the graduation projects should be real data.
6. An analysis document should be delivered in the beginning of the spring semester and a presentation is given by the students to present their findings and their time plan for designing and implementing the proposed system.

### **V- Project Sponsor**

The group of students, based on the topic of the graduation project, can select a sponsor. The sponsor must have expertise in the area of the students' project. The sponsor serves as advisor while the students complete the graduation project. Therefore, the sponsor should be easily available to the students. The project sponsor does not have to be a faculty member. Selection of a sponsor who has expertise in the area of a students' project and who is accessible to the students is crucial to the successful completion of the graduation project.

### **VI- Sponsor's Responsibilities**

The following are requirements of a person agreeing to be a sponsor for a project. Potential sponsors should read this list before agreeing to sign the Sponsor Approval Form. The students should provide this list to the sponsor.

The sponsor should:

- Have expertise in the area of the student's project
- Work with the student for the entire length of the project
- Encourage the student toward the completion of the project
- Consider serving on the evaluation team

### **VII- Oral Presentation**

The oral presentation demonstrates what students learned, discovered, or participated in while completing their project. Students are encouraged to use various visual aids during their oral presentation. Visual aids will serve to enhance the oral presentation. Visual aids take the form of the following:

- Overhead transparencies



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- Models
- Slides
- Videos
- Computers
- Brochures or pamphlets
- Posters
- Diagrams
- Charts
- Handouts
- Costumes

### **VIII- Evaluation Procedures**

The graduation project will be evaluated on a below basic – basic – proficient – advanced assessment scale. A satisfactory assessment is needed for purposed of meeting the faculty's graduation requirement. This means that all aspects of the graduation project must be at least proficient. Parts of the graduation project that do not meet the set standards will result in an overall unsatisfactory project. The deficient portion(s) of the graduation project must be re-evaluated by a committee member.

A panel consisting of up to four members will assess the oral presentation, demonstration and all related project paperwork.

### **IX- Plagiarism/Falsified Information**

Plagiarism in any form, whether intentional or unintentional, is unacceptable in the graduation project. Submitting falsified information is also unacceptable. The penalty for plagiarism or submission of falsified information will result in an unsatisfactory assessment.