

Course Project' Requirements

Your project must describe an initiative that goes beyond a single organizational function-do not chose a component of a functional IS as your project.

You must be able to create a model of a business process that you project will enable, and you must be able to perform the analysis of the improvements beyond ROI, TCO, etc. You should be able to demonstrate where, exactly, in a business process improvements are going to manifest, and in what form (cost cutting, revenue generation, decrease completion time, etc.).

Following are the specific points to keep in mind when selecting the project:

1. Your project must be large in scope- a basic BPA, or BPI-type of initiatives will not do.
2. Your project must be strategically important- you cannot just say "I'll do network modification", or "I'll write about an application that automates a data entry task".
3. You must be able to analyze & model the business process that your project aims to improve (all IT interventions support IS, which, in turn, enables a business process).
4. You must be able to show the fit between your technology/IS and the business.
5. You must be able to perform the analysis of the business process that will be impacted by your project- where the gains will come from, and in what form.
6. You should have access to the relevant data- every # you will input on your spreadsheet will be met with "Why? How did you get this number?" question from the instructor.
7. You must be able to demonstrate the business need for your undertaking.

Following are some of the steps that you should follow in preparing your project:

- First, you need to be able to describe the business of interest.
- Once you did so, you need to be able to identify one of the core business processes of that business- the process that is aligned with the business strategy, the one that is customer facing, and the one that makes money by selling products or services.
- Then you need to model the process- you could use DFD or UCD to do so. You MUST show/explain where in the process inefficiencies exist- you could do activity costing or duration analysis to do provide evidence.
- Then you should propose your solution to improving the process- you should demonstrate how your initiative will improve the process, and, as a result, will increase revenues/decrease costs.

- Then you need to prepare your system request, where you summarize the business need/opportunity, tangible, intangible benefits, constraints, and so on- standard stuff.
- Then you should go ahead with the logical design of a new, "to-be" process. After that you will do ROI, TCO, BEP, and so on- parts of feasibility analysis.
- At the end you will end up with the logical model of the system you plan to implement- you could use traditional modeling (ERD, DFD, etc.), or you could use OO approach (class diagram, UCD, interaction d., state transition d., and so on).