Microsoft (MS) Project

Student's Name

Instructor's Name

Course

Date

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Question 1. Opinion on the applicability of MS Project

I had an interaction with MS project and from a user perspective, MS project is easy to use. I would also care to mention that I have some programming background. The user interface (UI) of the software is easy to master as it incorporates an inbuilt guiding program that is user-friendly and has the right basics to enable new users with no programming knowledge to be able to interface with the program's set up. I also enquired from my classmates who no prior knowledge of computers who confirmed that with minimal tutorage by a person with programming background almost made them pros in its usage.

Question 2. Challenges of using MS project on this course

1. MS project is a wrong tool for tutorage purposes. The first problem that I foresee to be presented by MS Project is its making and design. It is designed for and widely used for management purposes. The managers use the software to develop plans, to assign resources to organization's tasks, to track progress, and to manage budgets as well analyzing the workloads in their departments. Using MS project in this course will be using the wrong tool for the wrong purpose. It lacks the components with which to support class learning. MS program is a bit complicated of a program to use. Students will have to be trained to be able to use the software, and this is an additional cost to the schools management in terms of time and resources when other easier to use programs for the purpose of teaching are available.

2. The integration of MS projects with other study programs such as MS Excel and MS word. MS project has superior features as compared to common study programs such as MS word and MS excel. This aspect makes it difficult for work done in MS project to be transferred

and integrated in the other software. The transfer of coursework such as assignment from MS project to other software may result in distortion of information that would then lose credibility. MS project can carry out various functions especially when customized installation of the software in the courses program will be a waste of resources because the student will only be using the study part of the software. In an organization set up the software may be used to its best unlike in school.

Question 3. Importance of using a tool like MS Project

1. Generation of progress reports. Reporting is a necessary thing to have when one has some series of scheduled activities. MS Project consists of some amazing reporting options unlike other tools such as MS Word, including outlining a project's overview: with the capability to report my upcoming tasks and activities. The software is capable of generating reports on the resource over or under-utilization in pursuit of the scheduled goals. With MS project, I can track the progress of my schedule by using the program's inbuilt resources such as Gantt chart. It consists of pivot interface that enables access to resources and task allocations data.

2. Baselining of projects and schedule. With MS project, one can maintain a snapshot in the time (baselining). Baselining involve among other qualities the ability to project start and finish time of a project. The ability to plan for a project's time is a unique ability not present in other common study programs. It makes it possible for me to initiate my schedule (project) properly, control the schedule activities and to end the project in case of uncertainties that deviate the schedule from its purpose. MS project allows one to abide by the schedule as planned or as anticipated. Baselining can also be used to measure and evaluate progress and to apply a change to the schedule whenever necessary.