SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE MARIE, ON

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: RESEARCH PROJECT

Code No.: CSN3040   **Semester:**   5

Program: COMPUTER NETWORK TECHNOLOGY

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Date: June , 2002   **Previous Outline Date:** August, 2000

Approved: _____   _____
| Dean | Date |

Total Credits: 3

Prerequisite: Computer Network Technician Diploma (or Permission of the   Co-ordinator)

Length of Course: 15 weeks   **Total Credit Hours:**   45

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I.   COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an opportunity for the student to consolidate the skills
developed in the first two years of the program, and to apply those skills to an
individualised network-related research project of greater complexity than
normal lab activities require. In addition to applying analysis, research and
presentation skills, the course will challenge the student's technical knowledge to
apply what has been learned to real-world problems over a four-month period.

II.   LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

A.   Learning Outcomes:

1.   Perform independent research in a timely manner using available
resources.

2.   Participate in peer roundtable discussions and reviews.

3.   Implement and test solutions when given problem specifications.

4.   Present technical research results effectively in both written and oral
forms.

B.   Learning Outcomes and Elements of the Performance:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the
ability to:

1.   Perform independent research in a timely manner using available resources.

Elements of the Performance:

- Prepare a written proposal outlining the goals and scope of the research
project.
- Utilise available resources, including Internet-based information sources
to research the topic area extensively.
- Maintain a logbook of project-related activities and project
documentation.

- Schedule project activities and milestones to ensure completion on time.
- Acquire necessary resources including software to implement the project solution.

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 30% of the course.

2.   Participate in peer roundtable discussions and reviews.

Elements of the Performance:

- Participate in scheduled roundtable discussions to review project progress with peers and faculty to help overcome difficulties and share experiences.

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 5% of the course.

3.   Implement and test solutions when given problem specifications.

Elements of the Performance:

- Test or compare alternative approaches to the problem.
- Implement a preferred solution (when appropriate) and summarise results.
- Recommend a preferred course of action stating advantages and disadvantages, costs and required resources.

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 40% of the course.

4   Present technical research results effectively in both written and oral forms.

Elements of the Performance:

- Prepare a formal technical report summarising the research project and discussing its results and recommendations.
- Present a summary of your research project to a group using appropriate presentation methods to enhance your effectiveness.

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 25% of the course.

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III.   TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

1.   Research Techniques and Sources

2.   Project Management

3.   Research Report and Presentation

IV.   REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES/TEXTS:

- List of suggested research projects. (supplied by instructor)
- Project Logbook

V.   EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Project Proposal	5%
Roundtable progress reports, attendance and participation	5%
Project organisation and Logbook	5%
Project Presentation	25 %
Technical Report and Technical Merit	60%
	100%

GRADING SYSTEM

A+		90	-	100%
A		80	-	89%
B		70	-	79%
C		60	-	69%
R	Repeat	Less than 60%		
X	Incomplete			

UPGRADING OF INCOMPLETES

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When a student's course work is incomplete or final grade is below 60%, there is the possibility of upgrading to a pass when a student meets all of the following criteria:

1.   The student's attendance has been satisfactory.
2.   The student has made reasonable efforts to participate in roundtable discussions, peer reviews, weekly classes and faculty reviews.
3.   Satisfactory effort was made throughout the semester to overcome delays and technical difficulties.

      The nature of the upgrading requirements will be determined by the instructor and may involve one or more of the following: re-submission of final report, redesign of project solution, completion of additional project-related tasks.

VI.   SPECIAL NOTES:

- **Special Needs**
  Students with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual or hearing impairments, or learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss any required accommodations confidentially with the instructor and/or contact the Special Needs Office so that support services can be arranged.

- **Retention of Course Outlines**
  It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

- **Course Modifications**
  Your instructor reserves the right to make reasonable modifications to the course as deemed necessary to meet the needs of students or take advantage of new or different learning opportunities.

VII.   PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

      Students who wish to apply for advanced standing in the course should consult the instructor. This course is not eligible for challenge at the present time.