MOT 8221 Mid-Semester Review

• List of items where rating was Very good or Excellent
• Excel file summarizing responses for items where one or more responses was Fairly Good or below (I didn’t summarize ratings for things that are going well)
• Listing of selected “Especially Commendable” (there were lots) and all “Needs Improvement” items along with frequencies
• Listing of all written comments
Mid-Semester Review

• **Items with Very good or Excellent ratings**
  
  – (Q2) The instructor’s clarity in presenting or discussing course material
  
  – (Q3) The instructor’s use of examples or illustrations
  
  – (Q4) The instructor’s encouragement of students to think about course material
  
  – (Q8) The instructor’s respect and concern for students
  
  – (Q9) Your comfort in asking questions or expressing an opinion in class
**MOT8221 S 2005 Mid Semester Review**

**Workload**

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**Expect**

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Q1: Your understanding of what is expected of you in this course
Q5: The instructor’s ability to speak clearly and audibly
Q6: The instructor’s success in getting you interested or involved
Q7: The instructor’s availability to answer questions or provide help
Q10: Helpfulness of feedback on assignments or class work
Q11: Degree to which evaluation procedures (e.g., exams, quizzes) measure your knowledge and understanding
Mid-Semester Review

• **Especially Commendable**
  – Instructor: Classroom control – 14
    • Clarity of explanations – 11
    • Punctuality – 12
    • Attitude to students – 18
    • Flexibility - 18
  – Lecture: Relevance – 15
    • Pacing – 8
  – Discussion: Quality – 15
    • Management - 12
  – Assignments: Clarity – 11
    • Usefulness of comments – 8
  – Audio-visual: Readability – 8
    • Relevance - 10
  – Handouts – 9
Mid-Semester Review

• Needs Improvement
  – Instructor: Punctuality – 1
  – Lecture: Pacing – 1
    • Too theoretical – 1
    • Drifts off point - 1
  – Discussion: Not enough – 1
  – Tests: Not enough – 1
    • Explanation or grading - 1
  – Assignments: Usefulness of comments – 1
  – Audio-visual: Too few - 1
  – Texts: Quality or relevance – 2
Written Comments

• Instructor
  – Flexible in teaching assignment and works at accommodating student wishes
  – Open minded, informed, flexible
  – Very knowledgeable and passionate about all course topics. Great classroom management & ability to build rapport with students
  – Good at engaging students in discussion. Good at organizing small group work
  – Ability to generate class discussion
  – Very interesting and engaging class. The grading is an enlightened way to running class (emphasis on learning, not memorizing and testing)
  – I like the demonstration of project management ideas within the execution of the course
Written Comments

• Lectures
  – Like the discussions
  – Great at synthesizing topic with real world examples from class
  – Directly relevant to reading assignments & curriculum in general. Very interactive with students
  – Well paced, varied, nice mix
  – Very interactive
Written Comments

• Reading material
  – Too much! But information is interesting
  – Papers very interesting
  – Daunting! Very difficult to assimilate all this information on a weekly basis.
  – Too much! However it does help that some readings are highlighted as more important
  – More in agile management
Written Comments

• Things that help learning
  – Discussion, controversy
  – Discussion as a class. Discussions in small groups
  – Sharing project management ideas in class between classmates
  – I appreciate the class discussions. I like WebCT to share information and wish some of the resources classmates use would be posted as examples
  – The breakout sessions, dynamic input from other classmates’ experiences
  – Class discussions are very helpful in learning the techniques other companies use
  – When stuck, alter project management perspective. Measure/monitor projects at an effective level
  – The format is very engaging
Written Comments

• Things that get in the way of learning
  – Nothing I can think of
  – ?
  – The amount of reading makes comprehension very difficult. Many times, skimming is required due to the total program workload...along with employer requirements
Written Comments

• How could this class be improved?
  – More focus on agile and adaptive project management
  – I can’t relate to a large part of the material! Far too much attention on “traditional” project management, focus on extreme or adaptive project management. Spent 80% of the time thinking “that would not work for me/us.” That’s a shame.
  – Narrow the scope of the course. Focus in-depth on specific topics instead of touching on so many topics.
  – Karl will figure it out – and work on it.
Reflections on Review

• Overall things seem to be going very well

• Feedback and Evaluation
  – These were the lowest rated items and so there is probably room for improvement
  – Feedback: My approach has been to provide feedback when asked and to try to make it specific and helpful. My sense is that uninvited feedback is not very helpful (if it’s received at all). I don’t provide feedback on the written reports unless I’m asked or they are so far off the standard that they’re just not acceptable.
  – Evaluation: My approach has been to focus on learning and not grading. In part this is self-serving. It’s much more interesting for me to work on finding things that are useful for class members and helping you learn than it is to partial out grades.

• I invite your suggestions and recommendations for improving the feedback and evaluation sections as well as other suggestions for improving the course