Project Management for Education

Note: For articles below that require a log-in, see these instructions.

“Best Bet” Sources

What is Project Management and Why is it Important to Teach?


Presentation for higher education institutions by the manager of academic relations for the Project Management Institute, Spring 2011. Posted with permission of Dr. Spivak.


Teaching Project Management in the Classroom


Describes a Washington state community college certificate program for students.


Recognition and advice regarding using project-based learning in the classroom.


Describes beginning project based learning in computer class and following up the next year in a class taught by geography and English teachers.

June 2011. Collection of sources including videos, examples, and recommended reading.


“The article discusses project-based learning in the classroom and suggests ways to ensure the approach engages students and incorporates meaningful learning tasks. The authors argue that teachers emphasize the end product of a project rather than the student's learning throughout the process when using a project-based approach to learning. The authors describe their seven-step approach to project-based learning and mention that their opinion of a good project includes personally meaningful purpose for the students and a project that has a clear learning goal. The authors' seven-step approach is described in the context of a hypothetical project for high school students and provides a rationale for each of the steps they include.”


Project management student surveys show they believe they learned transferable skills. However, not all believed virtual learning environment modules were as successful. The authors have recommendations for improving.


The author trained students in sub-topics of project management and they trained each other in groups with supervision of the instructor.


NOTE: Article on reserve. AC Lynn Library, WSC, 4th floor.

“This article describes a structured method for management professors to help students succeed with in-class projects and presentations. The method described provides a highly structured process in which instructors coach students toward success. The article describes two learning modules that emphasize skills needed for project management and for making an effective oral presentation. It concludes with student reactions, a possible theoretical explanation for the success of the methods used, and practical implications for business.”

NOTE: Article on reserve. AC Lynn Library, WSC, 4th floor.

“In recent years, more and more business schools have introduced team-based projects into their curricula as a means of addressing corporate, small business, and community-service issues while teaching students a variety of project management skills (technical and sociocultural). In designing a project-oriented course, an instructor has a number of options available with respect to project identification, project focus and scope, team size, composition and leadership, course content, content delivery, and student project evaluation. This article discusses the advantages and disadvantages of these various options, as well as the factors that are most likely to moderate an instructor's choices in seeking to maximize student learning and project success.”

Using Project Management within the College

Advising

This article starts on page 5. The author states “In the review of our advisory program it was clear that we must be intentional.... We had to intentionally teach students to organize their lives. To that end, teaching students time and project management skills were as important as teaching the “3Rs.”

Instructional Technology


Courses in project management are not usually part of the instructional design curriculum but project management skills are at the core of what is required in real life higher education courseware development.


This study analyzes the reported usage of project management methodology and perceived competencies and roles of project managers and instructional designers in educational/training product development project teams.
Information Technology


Describes use of Project Management Offices (PMO) in higher education. Includes reasons for establishing one, the problems they are designed to solve, organizational and reporting structure, services and lessons learned.

College Community


Authors recommend a matrix organization of projects as a way to share knowledge; acknowledge the goal of knowledge sharing at project initiation; hire external project management expertise if needed; be mindful of a potential culture clash when using PM methodologies; negotiate with team member functional managers about priorities.


Plainly written description of project management processes and rationale for development of a project office to manage training and implementation.

Project Management Credentials Certification

What are PMI Certifications?

Note that the Certified Associate in Project Management could be a potential option for students using curriculum provided by PMI within existing courses, during service learning activities and / or as the beginning basis for a marketable skills certificate.

Project Management Professional (PMP ™) Certification

Note: You might already have some of the requirements but need to document your experience.
Application/Tracking Experience for Verification

Explore Other Good Sources


Meant for business but practical for all.


See also the “Top 5 to Try” links on the left side of the screen.


Links to publications and research from PM Solutions, a business founded by a former president of the Project Management Institute.