

Matrix of Example Group Projects

Below you'll find four successful team projects used by UMN instructors. An explanation is provided for each project of how they meet each of the suggested criteria for a successful team project (relevant & authentic, well-defined, distinct contributions from multiple perspectives, collaboration, individual accountability, and group accountability).

Class and Instructor	Description	Relevant & Authentic	Well-defined	Distinct Contributions from Multiple Perspectives	Collaboration	Individual accountability	Group Accountability
Intercultural Training MGMT 3900 Holly Littlefield	Students deliver a mock training workshop.	Professional intercultural trainers design and give training sessions.	The details of the requirement of the training session are provided to students .	Individual team members must contribute to decisions about the country to study,resources, and designing training.	Team members make decisions about country, resources, and designing training.	Individual grades for presentation skills while leading one section of training and peer review	Team grade for mock training session.
Evaluate a Deicer CHEM 1065 Michelle Driessen	Students evaluate a deicer using available chemicals.	Professional chemists evaluate new products and select the one that best meets consumer needs.	The details of the requirement for evaluation of the products are provided to students.	Individual team members must contribute to decisions about the approach to take,assist in the evaluation of the deicer, troubleshooting experiments, and writing the presentation.	Team members make decisions about the approach to take,assist in the evaluation of the deicer, and prepare final presentation.	Individual grade for writing formal report, peer review, and daily documentation of lab work.	Team grade for experimental plans, experimental summaries, and final presentation.

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Genetic Engineering Proposal BIOL 2002 Sue Wick	Students create a poster outlining a proposed genetic modification.	Academic and professional scientists propose genetic engineering projects to funding agencies, government agencies, or industry.	The details of the required proposal and poster are provided to students in a series of comprehensive rubrics.	Individual team members contribute to decisions about the problem to address, the approach to use, and the construction of the proposal and poster.	Team members work together to make decisions about how to address the problem, the approach to use, writing the proposal, and preparation and presentation of the poster.	Weekly record of contributions to team work, peer review of team members at midterm and end of the semester, with the final peer evaluation counting in final course grade.	Team grades for written proposal, poster, and poster presentation.
Community Partners Web Usability WRIT 4501 Lee-Ann Breuch	Students do web usability analysis of a community organization website.	Technical communication professionals conduct usability studies on websites to gather information from target audiences.	The details of the usability research project (test plan, report, and presentation) are provided to students.	Individual team members must contribute to decisions about the design of usability testing, data analysis, and the final presentation. Through research they gather perspectives from actual users of the websites.	Team members work together to create a usability test plan, conduct data analysis, make Recommendations, write a report, and present findings to the community partner.	Individuals complete an exam and reflection on the group usability research experience. They also write reflections during the process.	Team grades for the usability test plan, report, and presentation.

