FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

1ST SEMESTER 2021

Assignment 1

Advanced Project Management
APM811S
ASSIGNMENT 01

As described in the Tutorial Letter, to develop a sound understanding and ability to progress and manage appropriate projects in Namibian. The course was not intended to train students as Project professionals, but as managers who are inevitably involved, directly or indirectly, in project management and as users of the project system, and of tools developed within an organisation, who will appreciate the value of project management.

A good project management structure ensures that the project is completed within specified time period and within the budget.

Topics focused in Assignment 1:

- Introduction to modern project management
- National and international projects
- Achieving the strategic goals through projects
- Technology in project management
- Initiating a project and building the team
- Project scope management
- Managing risk

Overall Performance

The overall performance in assignment one (1) of 2021 was rationally virtuous with a quantifiable ratio of 95 per cent achievement.

General comments referring to technical aspects

Due the mode of study (distance), the required use of prescribed texts remained a challenge for the preparation as most students used the study guide and source from the internet without referencing. As you were clearly informed on the following, the APA style of referencing. However, those not familiar with the APA convention should have contacted the library or use internet to acquaint yourself with such.
A high expectation was required for the Honours programme (post graduate students) on how to apply the theoretical application of Advance Project Management in a critical economic outlook and the necessity for academic writing.

Points to improve upon
You were expected to use the search engine during library session to source for information on various topics given for expansion of your horizon in the field of Advance Project Management. Read on your own, and prepare and plan ahead. The recommended Prescribed Readings to succeed with Advance Project Management would have been preferable:


  **Recommended Reading:**


The latest references would have been an appropriate methodology. An observation was made that old references as far back as 1996 were used.

**Questions:**
Taking into account that these questions required analytical and strategically thinking which provided a general approach in Project Management.
An important issue for top decision making clarify how to evaluate the extent to which both strategic integrations and devolution are practiced in an organisation. By means of relevant examples, discussions and how you would evaluate and monitor project management implementation.

**Question 1** – Using Payback, Net Present Value Methods and **recommend one** of three projects for execution and giving reasons for a recommendation.

✓ **Remarks:** Most of the students were conversant with the payback period and net present value method. The analysis and recommendation received a lack of attention. A number of students copied the calculations and provided wrong information.

**Question 2** – What is the difference between mitigating a risk and a contingency plan? Provide real life examples that illustrate the difference.

✓ **Remarks:** The majority of the students were knowledgeable applying the difference between mitigating a risk and a contingency plan, though certain challenges were experienced with the definition without any reference and the omission of the second part of the question.

**Question 3** – Discussions with references were required for the different types of methods for estimation of project cost and time. The conditions that dictate the preference for each of the methods was part of the question.

✓ Faulty estimates mean missing deadlines and breaking budgets—two of the main symptoms of project failure were the intended purpose of the interpretation of the question.

✓ **Remarks:** Certain students were in acquiescence with a good research methodology and understanding as some copied and paste the information without citation.

**Question 4** – Description on the fundamental elements of the project life cycle was prerequisite. Whys is an understanding of the life cycle relevant for your understanding of projects.

✓ **Remarks:** Numerous students provided the relevant fundamental elements of the project life cycle without examples and the understanding of the project context.
In today’s fast changing environment, project managers can be effective without being efficient, or they can be efficient without being effective. Modern Project management helps to enhance efficiency as well as effectiveness.

**Question 4** - Describe the relationship between the likelihood of a risk event occurring and the cost of fixing the risk event as a project proceeds through its life cycle.

✓ **Remarks:** The students were erudite relating to the relationship between the likelihood of a risk event occurring and the cost of fixing the risk event as a project proceeds through its life cycle. A definition was provided without any reference and the completion of the second part of the question.

In today’s fast changing environment, project managers can be effective without being efficient, or they can be efficient without being effective. Modern Project management helps to enhance efficiency as well as effectiveness.

**Conclusion:** No matter how difficult project management, your capabilities, believe in your skills, don’t panic in a difficult time but do your best, though CORONA, COVID19. Challenges that come in life have some purposes; they expose your hidden adroitness. You should do the task in a way that you can do your best and leave the rest on destiny. If it is not now, than when, if not me - than who will take the project.

*Wishing you the best for your projects in the near future*