

Designing CSCL Spring '09

Team 4- Chadd Spencer, Ann Veith and Stella Wong

Feedback from Teams Taking the Lesson

Team 6 Feedback for Team 4

Thank you, Team 4, for the well thought out lesson that you provided us. One thing that we liked very much was the subject of the lesson. Developing a team charter is an interesting topic and is very pertinent to collaboration in school, non-profit, or work situations. Most people will need to work in teams at some point during their careers, and this was a great introduction to structuring and laying out those teams.

There was really only one confusing part of the assignment, and that was the issue with two deliverables being listed (which was unclear). However, that was clarified quite quickly by the team and we appreciated that.

Something that perhaps could have been improved was the due dates for the lesson. It was well broken up and fairly well spaced out, however, most of the due dates were during the weekend. That can make it very difficult for non-full-time students to complete all the work on time. It was especially difficult because the charter, the major part of the lesson, requiring the most time, was due on Saturday. Then there were two assignments that needed done after the charter was complete that were due the next day, on Sunday. If a student has a busy weekend (for example, I was moving this weekend), it is nearly impossible for them to get everything done on time. If they do finish and turn it in on time, there is a good chance that it is not as high quality as it could have been if they'd had more time to complete it. Perhaps having the lesson structured similarly, but combining some things and making some parts more like suggestions instead of assignments would help.

It may not seem like it from the review, but the lesson was very good and we enjoyed going through the reading and learning from it. Thank you for putting it together for us.

Feedback for Team 4

The assignment seemed to go well for Team 4. There was a problem with one team member, who didn't turn in an individual work assignment, the mini-review. We understood that the student had difficulty with the application she originally chose, but we feel that in order to complete and earn points for this module of the assignment, she should have chosen another application and completed a mini review for it.

I think that overall the lesson as a whole went well. Both teams being taught seemed to be more aware of open source software and excited about how these applications can help them in the future. Both used metacognition to teach each other what open source applications are out there and how good and bad they can be. If we were teaching a section on open source software, I believe that this assignment would be a success.

We would add two overall changes. Adding due dates for each module would help keep the teams on track. They would also help the instructor know when to look for turned in modules. The other change would be to add an anonymous peer reviews. An anonymous peer review would help us to understand what collaboration went on outside of the instructors view. With the example of team 3, maybe Holly was a great collaborator outside of the team's DB. Without this information the instructor can only assume.