

CITS5501 Software Testing and Quality Assurance

Semester 1, 2018

Workshop 7 – Risk management

Overview

You will complete a short risk identification and assessment exercises in small groups.

Task 1

Break into groups of 3 or 4 students, ideally with at least one student in each group being involved in a group design project (e.g. from a CITS555X unit or CITS3200).

That student should describe the project, the resources available and the team involved to the other students in the group. The group should then attempt to go through a risk assessment process:

- Identify possible risks (at least five), and try to classify them.
- Attempt to estimate the probability and impact of each risk.
- Identify the top three risks, in terms of probability \times impact.
- Identify some options for mitigating, monitoring or otherwise managing those risks.

Task 2

Now, the student whose project was being assessed should swap into a *different* group.

In the new group, they should again describe their project, the resources available, and the team involved. The group should then attempt to carry out a *pre-mortem*:

- Assume you are at a point in the future after the project was due, and that it was a disaster.
- Each person should write a brief history of that disaster.
- Then, compare notes, and see if you can combine them into a list of risks, and identify any others that might occur.

Task 3

The student whose project was being assessed should swap back into their original group. They will now have had the experience of identifying risks in two different ways. Discuss with the group: was one easier or harder? Did one identify risks the other did not? Was one more comprehensive?