Hotel-project Week 1: Analysis

This weeks topic is: Defining your project.

Assignment

Start your project by defining what a team member is expected to do to be considered a good team member. Also define what a good team member should not do! Your definition will be a contract between the team members so be sure to make it explicit. Write down your definition and continue by stating the goal and objectives of the team. These could be both related to a grade or to learning outcomes. The important thing is that the team has a common understanding about what to achieve.

Read carefully the project intro document and ask your supervisor about anything you find unclear. Then investigate the hotel business: for example conduct interviews with hotel staff or look at existing booking systems on the web. The more effort you put into this stage the more realistic the project will be and more rewarding. Another benefit is that you will not be as dependent on your supervisors judgement.

To organize your thoughts it can be useful to use mind-maps or draw pictures.

After this, think about how the software you are about to develop should work. This should result in a number of requirements (both functional and non-functional). To begin with, think freely and add any fairly reasonable idea that you come up with. When this is done it is time to go through the list and pick a subset of requirements which will be used in the project. This typically means removing the requirements that would lead to a too extreme and complicated system. You have to give a textual rationale for your selection of requirements.

Finally, assign to each requirement a group member as responsible.

Remember to send the document to your supervisor at least 24 hours before your supervision.

Checklist

- A definition of the responsibilities of a team member.
- The goals and objectives of the team.
- A textual description of your system. You have to justify your decisions and make explicit which features you have chosen not to include.
- A revised list of requirements with one responsible per requirement. Focus on functional requirements but indicate which non-functional requirements will be important.
- A discussion or rationale of your requirements.
- Include documents that make your report stronger, like mind-maps, drawings, or interviews.