Characteristics of a Senior Project

While specific requirements vary from advisor to advisor, there are several factors that make something suitable for a senior project (Be sure to consult your own advisor for individual requirements.):

Independence A senior project should be a discrete unit. There should be a well-defined beginning and end to the project as well as clearly-defined criteria for success or failure.

Ownership The student needs to be primarily responsible for the project. This means that the student is directly responsible for the projects’ success or failure.

Background Research The project should require some investigation before implementation. Things to consider: How have others approached this problem? What new techniques or technologies must the student learn (or invent) to successfully complete this work?

Creativity The project should require creativity. Meaning the solution should not be obvious.

The Pre-Enrollment Process

The specifics will vary according to the project and advisor, but the proposal should be approximately one page (no more than two), and should include the following components:

- A statement of the problem the project is intended to solve;
- An outline of the general scope of the work, including specific anticipated milestones and deliverables, and a tentative schedule;
- A list of any special equipment or facilities that will be needed, using the Special Project Request form provided by CSL, and
- A description of how the proposed project satisfies the criteria outlined above.

If the project is to be a group project, the proposal should also address:

- The division of responsibilities among group members, and
- A means of evaluating the individual contribution of each member.

Enrollment Information

Project Title: ____________________________________________________________

Student Name: ___________________________ Last, First

Email: _________________________________________________________________

Major: ___ Computer Science ___ Software Engineering

Student ID: ____________________________________________________________

Grading: I have discussed project grading policy with my advisor and understand Letter grades are required for Senior Project II.

Units: _______________________________

Student Signature ___________________ Date ____________________________

Advisor Approval Signature ___________________ Date ____________________________

For Office Use Only: Course #: ___________ Section: ________ Permission #: ________