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Guide Book

MIMIC STUDENT GUIDE BOOK

MAKING INDUSTRY MEANINGFUL IN COLLEGE

MIMIC Student Guide Book



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Basics of the MIMIC project

Making Industry Meaningful In College for you.

The purpose of the MIMIC project is to give you an opportunity to experience the environment of the workplace in a classroom setting. You will be assigned to a company which includes students from other fields of study. This format will give you an opportunity to work with people of different backgrounds and personalities.

Once your company is formed, you will follow procedures that mimic what would happen in typical “real world” companies:

1. Your company will meet to review the product your company is assigned to make.
 2. Your company will decide on a corporate name.
 3. Your company will meet weekly (or more often if necessary) to communicate ideas, solve problems and plan the project.
 4. You will complete individual classroom assignments pertaining to the project.
 5. You will make an oral presentation to the group concerning your part of the project.
 6. You will participate in the production of the product.
 7. You will participate in the MIMIC Fair. The MIMIC fair is the ultimate goal, where you will display and sell your products to students and staff of IVCC.
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What classes participate in MIMIC?

BUS 2260 – Integrated Business Operations

Integrated Business Operations offers students credit as they form and run a MIMIC company, including organization of the MIMIC Fair, accounting functions, marketing, and company correspondence. The course is required for sophomores in business and accounting Associate in Applied Science Programs.

CAD 2208 - Engineering Design Projects

Engineering Design Projects is a capstone course in engineering that enables a sophomore CAD/CAE student to use their skills to successfully design a product for production. Students produce engineering drawings for production and supervise production as project managers.

ELT 2254 – Electrical Capstone

Students get to show all they have learned in the program in this class. You have two projects, one is the award winning MIMIC project and one is an Automation project using the Basic Stamp.

Why do students from all three classes participate?

The mix of classes creates an environment of a manufacturing company. The MIMIC project explores how the various disciplines (engineering, electronics and business) work together in a simulation of a real world company.



Figure 3: A MIMIC team member advertises the MIMIC Fair by painting the fair logo on the window near the main entrance to the college.

When does MIMIC meet?

MIMIC-related classes meet on Monday and Wednesday starting at 1:00 p.m. Classes participating in MIMIC have been scheduled at a common time so that all classes can meet together when necessary.

The first team meeting (see schedule) will last for the entire class period and will include a presentation from the MIMIC instructors.

This meeting will also include a team building exercise and a question and answer period for you. If time permits, you will begin reviewing the product you will be producing for the semester. You will also discuss how to keep in communication with each other for the semester.

At the second meeting your team will continue discussion of your product.

All company meetings will be on Wednesdays for the remainder of the semester barring unforeseen circumstances. Changes will be announced.

Individual companies will have individual needs. Circumstances or problems may arise that make it necessary for your company to meet more often than scheduled. Your company will decide on times and places to meet to resolve issues as needed.

You will communicate with your team members. You will have an email address assigned to you. An electronic discussion board will also be available for discussions between members of your company and the entire MIMIC group.



Figure 1. Team members discuss progress at a weekly company meeting.

Where does MIMIC meet?

The first MIMIC meeting will be in the Fireplace Lounge. Individual company meetings will be in various assigned rooms in building D. Any room changes will be announced by your instructors.

What is expected of a MIMIC student?

As a participant in MIMIC, you must meet certain requirements that are essential in being part of the “team.” Knowing what is expected of you as a MIMIC student should lessen your anxiety and help you participate more effectively. The teamwork requirements you must meet include the following:

MIMIC creates real life situations in a classroom setting.

1. You are expected to attend company meetings.
2. You are expected to participate in discussions about the best approach to produce, market, price and produce your product. You are expected to work with all of your team members to overcome problems.
3. You are expected to give an oral presentation to the MIMIC group. Depending on the size of your class, you may be giving an individual presentation or presenting as part of a team of two or three.
4. You are expected to work in the production of your products. One week in the MIMIC schedule is for production.
5. You are expected to facilitate at least one company meeting. As facilitator, you will set the agenda for the meeting and see that the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner. Engineering Design students will conduct the meetings during the design phase of the project. Electronics students will conduct the meetings during the prototyping phase of the project. Business and Marketing students will conduct the meetings during the weeks before the fair.
6. You are expected to participate in the MIMIC Fair.
7. You are expected to attend the final meeting and celebration.



Figure 2: MIMIC students celebrate the completion of the project with lunch and a presentation by a speaker.

Section**2**

What should you expect from MIMIC?

The goal of MIMIC is to prepare you to enter the workplace. By creating an industrial company structure within the classroom, MIMIC allows you to sharpen your technical skills and develop essential workplace skills including the following:

- Oral communication skills
- Arithmetic/computation skills
- Written communication skills
- Responsibility/goal setting
- Self-management skills
- Alcohol and drug free
- Reasoning /using logic
- Problem solving skills
- Reading and understanding non-technical and technical materials
- Knowing how to learn
- Critical thinking skills
- Life application skills (ethics, civic responsibility)
- Technological skills
- Leadership skills
- Decision-making
- Teamwork skills
- Listening skills
- Self-esteem

These 18 skills are endorsed by Tech Prep, a federal program funded through Carl Perkins legislation. Tech Prep programs combine academic and technical education to prepare students to enter and succeed in careers.

MIMIC is sponsored by a Partnerships for College and Career Success grant provided through the Starved Rock Associates for Vocational and Technical Education and IVCC Consortium. For 2005 through 2008, some funding for the project was from a National Science Foundation grant. Under the NSF grant, MIMIC became the focal point of the two-year technical programs in engineering design and electronics.



Figure 4: Team members apply problem solving and critical thinking skills to a product problem.

Field Trip Opportunities

You are likely to have an opportunity to participate in one or more field trips, with all MIMIC students or just with students in your field. Field trips will be announced by your instructor.



Figure 5: MIMIC students board the bus to return to campus carrying samples distributed at the National Design Engineering Show in Chicago.

MIMIC Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule. Please listen to your instructor for date changes.

January 20 Class meetings
 January 27 Team meetings with entire MIMIC group in A209

There will be company meetings every Wednesday throughout the semester unless otherwise announced. Once a month before team meetings there will be either a team building or a quality training activity.

February 3 Company meeting to discuss product and group/individual photos
 February 10 Company meetings
 February 17 Company meetings
 February 24 Edible Car Contest
 March 3 Engineering design finalized
 Engineering presentations given to entire MIMIC group
 March 3–18 Prototyping
 March 22-26 Spring Break
 March 31 Electronics presentation to entire MIMIC group
 April 7 - 14 Production week
 April 14 Quality review
 April 21 Marketing Presentations to entire MIMIC group
 April 28 MIMIC Fair
 May 5 Accounting Presentations to entire MIMIC group
 May 10 Final meeting and celebration (attendance required)

Figure 6:
 MIMIC instructors and
 college administrators
 attend oral presentations by
 student team members.



Oral Presentations

You will participate in an oral presentation.

You will present your portion of the project to the entire MIMIC group at a time in the semester determined by your discipline; for example, presentations by engineering design students are early in the semester and presentations by marketing, accounting and business students are late in the semester. Faculty, staff, administration and counselors are also invited to attend. You will be instructed in the use of software and equipment to facilitate a successful presentation.



Figure 7: MIMIC students give oral presentations about their portions of the project utilizing Power Point.

Production

You will contribute to the manufacture of your company's product.

One week in your class has been scheduled for manufacturing of products. All of your team members are expected to contribute to the manufacturing week. Each team will recommend the number of products they believe they should manufacture. Instructors will approve the number of products to be manufactured by each team.



Figure 8: Team members from all career fields participate in production.

The MIMIC Fair

The Big Day!

For 16 weeks, your team will work to meet its goal: selling your wares at the fair. At the fair, your finished product will be displayed for everyone on campus to see and purchase.



Figure 9: At left, customers admire the interesting display of the Turn On Company. All companies sold out their products at the 2001 Fair, a record-breaking event for MIMIC. Five companies contributed 30 products each to the fair. The theme of the fair, illustrated by the logo above, was “Plug Into The Future.”

Organizing and publicizing the MIMIC Fair is the primary responsibility of BUS 2260 students, but all of you are required to participate in the fair. Job duties may include setting up booths and displays, staffing the booths for sales, and tearing down displays for clean up. Teamwork is very important throughout the project, which includes the MIMIC Fair.



Figure 10: Team members await the arrival of customers as the MIMIC Fair booths open for business.

Tips from past students

“Work hard, work as a team and leave no one behind and everyone will benefit from a real-life program that truly mimics the real working world.”

- Jeff Grabill

“Try to be a leader...”

- Scott Heyers

“Listen to your instructors...”

- Tiffany Saetern

“Stay ahead of the game...if you have a deadline see if you can get it done a week ahead of time... in the long run you will be much happier.”

- Derik Faber

“Start early, make decisions early...be there for the meetings and give ideas because you don't want to be locked into doing something you don't really want to do...don't pick anything too complicated...”

- Matt Stickel

“Be prepared; expect the unexpected.”

- Nolan Carey

“...the hardest thing is getting everything done, lined up in order and what steps to do it in...”

- Chad Votaw



Figure 11: MIMIC students train in teamwork

Visit the MIMIC Web Site: <http://www.ivcc.edu/mimic>

Sample forms

The following pages include sample forms. These or similar forms will be utilized by some members of your team during the project.



Figure 12: MIMIC Fair products (on left above) at a table at the 2001 Fair and in a display case in the main lobby (above). At left, therapeutic massage students provide chair massages at the 2005 Fair.



AGENDA

Team Name:

Meeting Date:

AGENDA ITEM	PERSON	TIME	RESULTS NEEDED
Attendance		min.	
		min.	
		min.	
		min.	
		min.	
Agenda items for next meeting		min.	

Sample

P:/MIMIC/Agenda1_07.doc

WORKSHEET FOR TEAM MEETING NOTES

The list below suggests information that should be recorded about a meeting. Use this information to prepare a summary for team members, your instructor and team records.

Date _____ Time _____ Place _____

Attending:

Absent:

1. Major decisions group reached:
 2. Major issues discussed with no decision made:
 3. Other topics of discussion
 4. Responsibilities assigned or assumed (or reminders announced):
 5. Deadlines or times assigned (or reminders announced):
 6. News on progress (or lack of it) on project(s): Use person's name and report what progress they have made or not made on their responsibilities. Be specific.

_____ reported....
(person's name)
 7. Problems encountered:
 8. Next meeting scheduled:
 9. Agenda items for that meeting:
-

Meeting Evaluation

Name _____
 Meeting Date _____
 Company Number _____
 Company Name _____

<u>Meeting Administration</u>	Not at all			To a great extent	
Was the room adequate?	1	2	3	4	5
Did the meeting start on time?	1	2	3	4	5
Who was late?					
Were the appropriate people present?	1	2	3	4	5
If not who was absent:					
Was the agenda followed?	1	2	3	4	5
Did the meeting end on time?	1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

Group Spirit

Did everyone participate?	1	2	3	4	5
Was the meeting free from disruptions?	1	2	3	4	5
Was there a healthy group spirit?	1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

Effectiveness

Was the meeting a good use of time?	1	2	3	4	5
Did you accomplish your goals?	1	2	3	4	5

Comments: _____

Give a brief synopsis of the meeting:

Name of Facilitator _____

Peer Performance Review

Employee Information

Name Of Team Member Being Reviewed:

Your name (optional)

Date:

Review Period: to

Review Guidelines

Complete this peer review, using the following scale:

NA = Not Applicable

1 = Unsatisfactory

2 = Marginal

3 = Meets Requirements

4 = Exceeds Requirements

5 = Exceptional

Evaluation

	(5) = Exceptional	(4) = Exceeds Requirements	(3) = Meets Requirements	(2) = Marginal	(1) = Unsatisfactory
Demonstrates Required Job Skills And Knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has The Ability To Learn And Use New Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uses Resources Available In An Effective Manner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responds Effectively To Assigned Responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meets Attendance Requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Listens To Direction From Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Takes Responsibility For Actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honors Commitments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates Problem Solving Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offers Constructive Suggestions For Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Generates Creative Ideas And Solutions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meets Challenges Head On	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates Innovative Thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Comments:

Provided by HR.com

MIMIC Agreement

I have read the MIMIC Guidebook, understand the requirements of the project, agree to be punctual and to attend company meetings and other MIMIC events, and will abide by the other terms and conditions of the project.

Signature _____ Date _____

Intellectual Property Agreement

I hereby give my consent to Illinois Valley Community College to document my MIMIC project work and to utilize that documentation for educational or promotional purposes, without compensation, in perpetuity. Documentation may include photographs, diagrams, or videos in print or electronic format.

I also hereby give my consent to Illinois Valley Community College to retain samples of products and components which I develop or assist in developing for the MIMIC project and to utilize those products or components for educational or promotional purposes, without compensation, in perpetuity.

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____



Photo/Video Statement Release

I hereby release rights to photographs, video and statements taken by Illinois Valley Community College to use in possible promotional or educational materials, including IVCC's Web site.

**ILLINOIS VALLEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Signature _____ Date _____