

IS 3843 -- SPRING, 2009 MIDTERM EXAM

You must complete each of the following 3 questions. Each question will represent 33% of the credit for the exam. Answer each question clearly and neatly. Type (wordprocess) the answers, with no more than 2 pages each, double spaced with 1" margins. If I cannot read your answer or understand your grammar, or if you provide multiple answers, the answer will be wrong.

You may have notes, books or other reference materials that you desire. However, you must do the exam *alone*.

This exam is due on Monday, March 30 in class. Turn in hard copy of the exam — do *not* email the exam to me.

1. In our definitions, we identified one of the primary things that differentiates a DSS from an MIS is that a DSS facilitates *analysis* of the data, whereas the MIS facilitates *reporting* of the data. Discuss the difference between these two. How will you demonstrate this difference in your project this semester?
2. Consider the decision making theories associated with Piaget and discuss how these theories will impact the how you will design your DSS this semester. In particular, identify a specific feature for the DSS that would be impacted by the decision making style issues discussed by Piaget. It might be an issue with the user interface, how the modeling, or the data component. Identify the feature, how you would operationalize it, and how it illustrates Piaget decision making model.
3. Simon identifies three stages of decision making: intelligence, design and choice. In the first stage, intelligence, decision makers monitor their environment so as to define problems and opportunities. What kinds of intelligence tools would you build into your project this semester.