

IS 6840 -- FALL, 2011
FINAL EXAM

You must complete each of the following 4 questions. Each question will represent 25% of the credit for the exam.

Answer each question clearly and neatly. Type (wordprocess) the answer to each question. Answers to each individual question may be no more than 2 pages, 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, December 12 by 7pm**. Turn in hard copy of the exam — **do not email the exam to me**. You may FAX the exam to me at 314-516-6827. If I am not in the office when you come by, simply slip it under my door.

1. Write a fable that illustrates a principle of systems analysis. Provide an "interpretation" of the fable (aka, the moral of the story) to help a reader understand the point you are trying to make.
2. How did you implement IDEO methodology in your project this semester? In answering this question, state the principles of the IDEO methodology and discuss *specific* instances of using them. If you did not use the IDEO methodology this semester provide *specific* instances of the methodology you *did* use and how IDEO principles would have changed your activities.
3. You have just become the project leader of a team at a new startup, Pretres, that is required to develop a search engine for smart phones. You need to research what the best method would be to display information returned by Pretres's search engine. One method is to use summarization information (you may assume you have a good text summarizer that will work on smart phones platform), and another method is to visualize information (you may assume you have some way of assigning fitted images to text).

Your goal is to use prototyping to help you decide whether summarization or visualization will be the best method for Pretres to use in building a commercially viable product. Outline which questions Pretres would be interested in answering as a way of framing your effort. Then briefly describe how you would use prototyping to answer this question. *Be specific*.

4. Does the 112 Congress of the United States follow a Systems Approach th in making their decisions? Provide *specific* examples to back your answer. Note: I am *not* asking if the Congress *is* a system, but rather whether they *use* a systems approach. I am also not asking about your political preferences.