

IS 628: Computer-based Information Systems  
Reading Preparation Assignment  
Chapter 11  
IT Project Management

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Read Chapter 11 of the text, pp. 410 – 430.

Be prepared for class discussion based on the following questions:

1. What information is typically included in an initial IT project request? In a project charter?
2. What types of skills have been identified as important for successful IT project managers?
3. What are the business manager roles of project sponsor and project champion, and why are they important?
4. Select an IT project that you are familiar with and comment on whether there was a formal project sponsor and champion, which business managers played these roles, and whether or not you think their roles positively affected the project outcomes.
5. What are some key issues related to IT project staffing that need to be well managed?
6. If a person has been certified by the PMI but has never been on an IT project team, would you even consider hiring that person to manage an IT project? Justify your answer.
7. A large number of U.S.-based mergers over the past two decades have failed to achieve the forecasted business benefits of the merger. Develop an argument for why poor IT project management could contribute to this type of failure.
8. Not all organizations conduct a formal post-project review. Provide an argument for why you think organizations should include such a step as part of their project closing. Why may a company legitimately not do such a review?