

# ICS3M1 - Computer Science (Java)

## Investigating Computer Careers

### Introduction

This assignment helps you to explore a computer-related career as a means of income as well as personal fulfilment. Working with a partner, you will research different job searching web sites, Toronto newspapers and other resources to determine the demand for computer science skills in the workplace. You will also examine the necessary job requirements (preparation to apply for the job), compensation levels and personal rewards.

As you plan and execute your project, you will keep a record of your problem-solving steps on the accompanying form. This form must be submitted as part of the final evaluation. Apply your understanding of the problem-solving stages to answer the question “Is a computing career for me?”

You will present your research and personal reflections about the computer-related career to your classmates (see below for the presentation criteria)..

### Topics

Select one of the following careers in conjunction with the rest of the class.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Administrative Support</li><li>· Application Developer</li><li>· Business Analyst</li><li>· Business Development</li><li>· Call Centre / Help Desk Analyst</li><li>· Computer Science Teacher</li><li>· IT Consultant</li><li>· Database Administrator (DBA)</li><li>· Data Warehousing</li><li>· Desktop Tech Support</li><li>· E-commerce architect</li><li>· Human Resources Specialist</li><li>· IT Instructor</li><li>· IT Manager</li><li>· Marketing</li><li>· Network Administrator</li><li>· Network Manager</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Operator</li><li>· Programmer</li><li>· Project Manager</li><li>· Quality Assurance</li><li>· Sales Representative</li><li>· Security</li><li>· Senior Developer</li><li>· Software Engineer</li><li>· System Administrator</li><li>· Systems Analyst</li><li>· Systems Engineer</li><li>· Technical Support (On site)</li><li>· Technical Writer</li><li>· Unix Administrator</li><li>· Web Designer</li><li>· Webmaster</li><li>· Wireless Developer</li></ul> |
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**Problem-Solving Analysis & Design Sheet**

<b>Stages</b>	<b>Actions Taken</b>	<b>Difficulties Encountered</b>
1. Identify the problem: what is the task at hand? (research, reflection, presentation.)		
2. What do we know already about the situation and what are our assumptions? (market demands, qualifications, education etc).		
3. Brainstorm ideas to complete the task.		
4. Prioritize ideas		
5. Steps to be taken.		
6. Evaluation: How we met the requirements?		

## Presentation Criteria

Your project should present your findings in the form of an oral presentation and slide show (using Corel Presentations) and should discuss your own career aspirations in light of your personal values, abilities and interests.

Your entire slide show should be somewhere between 5 and 10 slides in length. It should make full use of the Corel Presentations features to make for an interesting and effective slide show. It should be free of spelling and grammar errors, and have pictures which illustrate the various points being made. Your oral presentation should be between 10 and 15 minutes in length.

The slide presentation must include the following:

1.	<b>Title page</b> containing the names of both team members (you must work with 1 partner), date, some eye-catching graphics.
2.	An <b>Introduction</b> section describing the purpose of the project.
3.	A <b>Description of the Career</b> section. This should include samples of 5 ads looking for employees in the career category, a description of the responsibilities and functions of the employee, a description of the educational requirements, a description of any other training outside of formal education, salary ranges, where most of the jobs are located (focus on Canada and the United States). Also include any information about forecasts for the career in the near future.
4.	A <b>Personal Reflection</b> section where you evaluate yourself and your partner in light of this career, and how suitable it might or might not be for yourselves. Consider the pros and cons of the computer-related career you have chosen. Reflect on your own personal values, abilities and aspirations so you can discuss issues of personal satisfaction in addition to remuneration (salary and benefits).
5.	A <b>Conclusion Section</b> which summarizes the findings of the research project.
6.	A <b>Bibliography</b> - should contain at least 5 properly cited sources of information for your project (use correct style).

**Some Suggested Web Sites:**

<http://www.workopolis.com/>

<http://ca.hotjobs.yahoo.com/>

<http://www.monster.ca>

<http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/>

<http://www.settlement.org/site/EM/apt/occupations.asp>

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