

CS5013 Project Proposal

[Project title here]

[Name 1, Roll no.]

[Name 2, Roll no.]

July 27, 2026

Instructions. Keep the proposal to 3–5 pages. Replace every bracketed [placeholder] with your own text. Do not delete section headings, even if a section is short. Attach the stakeholder acknowledgement email as Appendix A.

1 Team information

Team ID: team-XX (or “solo”).

- Member 1: [Name] – roll no. [XXXX] – department [XX] – GitHub handle [xxx]
- Member 2: [Name] – roll no. [XXXX] – department [XX] – GitHub handle [xxx]

Primary contact email: [xxx@smail.iitm.ac.in].

2 Problem statement

Three to four sentences. What is the problem. Whose problem is it. What does the current pain look like. No marketing language.

3 Users and stakeholder

Named stakeholder: [Name, role, department / centre / lab].

One paragraph on how you met them and what they said. Include the date of your first conversation.

The stakeholder’s acknowledgement email is attached as Appendix A.

4 Prior work and why it does not suffice

List at least three existing solutions your stakeholder could plausibly use instead. These may be commercial products, open-source tools, in-house scripts, or purely manual workflows. For each, give the name and link, what it does that overlaps with your proposal, and the specific reason it is not adopted.

1. [**Name of solution 1**] – [link, or “internal / manual”]. Overlap: what it does that overlaps with your proposal. Gap: specific reason it is not adopted – cost, missing feature, wrong data model, licensing, offline-only, cannot integrate with the stakeholder’s existing system, language barrier, etc.
2. [**Name of solution 2**] – [link]. Overlap: ... Gap: ...

3. [Name of solution 3] – [link]. Overlap: ... Gap: ...

“There is nothing like this” is almost never true and will be marked down. If after honest searching the closest thing is a spreadsheet the office maintains by hand, say that – a manual workflow is a legitimate incumbent.

5 Tech stack

Language: **Java** (course policy).

- Build system: plain `javac` / Maven / Gradle
- Framework: e.g., plain CLI / Java-Swing / Spring Boot / Javalin – pick one
- Key libraries: list 3–5
- Where the tool will run: e.g., stakeholder’s laptop / department server / GitHub Actions cron / hosted web app

6 AI-usage statement

We will use AI coding assistants (such as Claude Code, GitHub Copilot, ChatGPT, or Gemini) during this project, in line with the course policy on AI-assisted programming. Every line of code we submit will be code we understand and can explain in the viva, whether we typed it or the assistant generated it.

7 Verification plan

Test fixtures we will use:

- e.g., a de-identified sample of the July 2026 attendance sheet, provided by the stakeholder
- e.g., a synthetic corner-case set covering empty inputs, duplicates, and off-by-one dates

User-visible acceptance criteria the stakeholder will use to say “yes, this works”:

- e.g., processes the July 2026 attendance sheet without manual correction
- second concrete criterion
- third concrete criterion

8 Milestone plan

A three-line sketch – you will refine this in the design doc.

- **By the design doc (11 Sep 2026):** what will be scoped, prototyped, or scaffolded.
- **By the mid-demo (9 Oct 2026):** which core workflow will run end-to-end on real input.
- **By the final submission (6 Nov 2026):** what the stakeholder will be able to run themselves.

9 Risks and plan B

1. **Risk:** e.g., stakeholder data arrives in an undocumented format. **Plan B:** ship with a small format-converter and document the assumed schema.
2. **Risk:** ... **Plan B:** ...
3. **Risk:** ... **Plan B:** ...

A Stakeholder acknowledgement email

Paste the stakeholder's email here, verbatim. Include the sender's name, role, and the date. Redact any personal information the stakeholder asks you to redact.