For the second project deliverable, your team will complete initial activities associated with the systems development life cycle. In general, you will develop a general description of the system, a plan for getting the system developed, and an analysis of user tasks to be supported by the system. You should submit the following elements.

1. Project Initiation and Planning: System Description and Justification (30)

A first step in a project like this is to create a description of the proposed system and a justification for the system, in order to help clients/customers/bosses understand where you are headed. Please develop a description of the information system to be developed (including ideas from the information system model on the syllabus) and a justification of the system (including any relevant ideas from class discussions).

Hint: Since many of the details of an information system are specified later in the development process, the goal here is not to commit but to provide a reader with an idea of the type of system you intend to develop. Given this, you may wish to suggest what forms specific elements could take. For example, you could say something like “During a sale, users might identify themselves by scanning a digitally coded card.” Alternately, you could say something like, “Components for getting information into the system might include card readers, scanners, etc.”

2. Project Initiation and Planning: Information System Development Plan (40)

Another first step is the development of a project plan – the sequence of activities that need to happen and some detail about what the activity entails. (Typically, a plan also includes the anticipated duration and who is assigned – you will not be asked to do this). Please develop a project plan, using the systems development life cycle activities (Figure 2-4) as a guide. For each activity, describe the activity in terms of the development of the valued customer information system. Activity descriptions should also include example decisions that need to be made, a statement of the expected product/deliverable of the activity, and the types of skills that would be required to complete the activity/create the products.

3. Analysis: User Analysis (30)

In a functioning valued customer information system, different users will need to complete a wide variety of tasks. These tasks point to functions that the system will need to support. Please identify the anticipated users of the information system and the different tasks they will need to perform.