Assignment 1: Simulation Proposal

(Nota: This received a grade of B+)

Proposed Course Title
Transitioning to PowerFaids 12.2.

Course Description
This course will train Financial Aid Advisors on the software upgrade from PowerFaids 11.1 to PowerFaids 12.2.

Course Justification
College Entrance Examination Board, the company that writes the PowerFaids software suite, released a newer version of PowerFaids to include multiple new features which are necessary to remain up to date with current Title IV legislation.

Target Audience
Financial Aid Advisors and staff at Yavapai College.

Justification for using technology-based training
Instruction would be severely limited without technology-based training to perform the verification processes necessary to remain compliant with the Dept. of Education. By providing a technology-based simulation, the advisors will be able to “practice” without ill-effects accidentally occurring to student’s records.

Description of the Simulation

Type of simulation
Diagnostic Simulation (Tactical-Decision)

Scope of the simulation
The concepts to be covered by this simulation would include an all-inclusive overview of the new rendition of the PowerFaids software suite. The skills needed should already be sustained by the participants, it is just an adaptation of prior knowledge to a similar, yet different, system.

Learning Objectives supported by the simulation
The Participant will be able to:
• Demonstrate proficiency with the new PowerFaids software suite.
• Complete verification procedures within a reasonable amount of time as compared to the previous edition of PowerFaids (11.1).
• Adapt to idiosyncrasies of new edition of PowerFaids (12.2).
• Outline the steps to complete the verification process in the new software suite.
• Identify the procedures that are new within PowerFaids 12.2.
Framework

Problem/Scenario
Financial Aid Advisors completing the verification process.

Participant Roles
Participants maintain their role as Financial Aid Advisors.

Staff and peripheral roles
The trainer will manage the course which includes; operating the computer, facilitating proper use of training software, provide any necessary information conducive to participants in the acquisition of knowledge for this course and assisting participants when necessary.

Anticipated Events
Participants will verify a student’s file.

Projected Sequence
1. Participant will be given a student’s physical Institutional Student Information Report (ISIR)
2. Participant will proceed through verification of student through simulation software,
3. Participant will produce an award/no-award status for the student.

What I was looking for was the sequence of events the student would face as he does the simulation. What types of situations will he face in the ISIR and the software that he must diagnose and reach a decision and take action.

Consequences
The consequences of this simulation are incorrect or incomplete files will result in (1) a departmental audit, (2) verification of more than the 30% of students which is currently recommended by legislation and (3) early indication of a possible demotion for recurring discrepancies.

What I was looking for here is the consequences for taking the wrong decision or action in the simulation. Students must feel compelled to do the right thing while doing the simulation. They must feel that if they do something wrong, there will be a reaction “in the game.” You could make a game like simulation that as they make good decisions they receive points (At-a-boys!) and as they make bad decisions or make mistakes they lose point (“On, No!”)

Resource Requirements
Resources required for this simulation are minimal.
- A computer with Microsoft Windows XP SP2.
- The simulation program which I will write using C++.
- A student’s Institutional Student Information Report (ISIR).
- An office will also be necessary to provide the training.