

COMP 492 Assignment 4: Report Draft

Instructions

For this assignment, you must submit a complete and polished draft of a report describing your senior project. Each project team will submit only one report. The following guidelines apply:

- The suggested minimum length is 15 pages, but longer reports will not be penalized. Teams with more than two members should submit somewhat longer reports.
- Any reasonable formatting is acceptable.
- The target audience for the report is people who have an undergraduate degree in computer science, but have no specialist knowledge of your project or its field.
- The overall style of the report should be similar to a scientific paper to be published in a scholarly journal.
- You are free to recycle material from previous senior seminar assignments.
- The report should take account of any feedback on previous reports.
- Your project should be nearing completion, but it need not yet be complete. If further work is planned, the report should describe these plans.
- For projects with multi-person teams, the report should include a brief section describing the main contributions of each member of the project team, including which portions of the report were written by which team members and which parts of the coding and design were done by which team members.

Grading

Due to the diverse nature of senior projects, it is not possible to provide a numerical rubric for grading. Instead, the following qualitative rubric will be used. To obtain an excellent grade, your report must achieve excellence in a strong majority of the following aspects:

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| Scientific/ engineering merit | The project successfully addresses a substantial problem or task, showing evidence of intellectual and engineering effort. |
| Logical flow | The overall structure of the report makes it easy to read and understand. |
| Background | Objectives of the project are stated clearly. Necessary background information and context are provided, without excessive detail. |
| Software requirements | Formal requirements for software are described clearly, adhering to accepted guidelines. |
| Software design | Design of the software is described clearly, in sufficient detail that a reader could implement a similar system. |
| Method | Non-software aspects of the project (such as theoretical investigations, experiments, discussion of unexpected challenges, etc.) are described in clear, concise scientific language. |
| Results | The outputs or operation of the software, or results of scientific experiments, are reported clearly and in sufficient detail, using suitable tables and figures where appropriate. If appropriate, the necessary techniques for installing, maintaining, and running the software are described in sufficient detail. |

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| Discussion of future work | Limitations of the work are summarized, and opportunities for enhancements are identified. |
| Summary | A clear summary of what has been achieved is provided. |
| Citations | Appropriate citations appear throughout the text. |
| Bibliography | The bibliography is extensive enough to demonstrate ample background research, and includes sufficient scholarly material. |
| Grammar and punctuation | There are no errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling |
| Scientific definitions | All scientific terms are introduced, defined, and explained before they are used. |

Note that the categories above need not correspond to sections of your report. You are free to structure the report in whatever manner you wish, to communicate your project most effectively.

Submission

Please submit your report (as PDF, Word, or any other reasonable file format) to Moodle.