Principles of Computing
Team Assignment

Assignment Overview

Computers have changed the way people think, work, live, and play. Our methods for communicating, collaborating, problem-solving, and doing business have changed, and are continuing to evolve due to innovations enabled by computing. Many innovations in other fields have been fostered by advances in computing. Computational approaches lead to new understandings, new discoveries, and new disciplines.

Working with 1 or 2 partners from class (your instructor will provide specifics), this assignment is to write a formal paper and present your findings on one of the following topics:

1. How has computing enabled innovation in other fields?
2. What do you think has been one of the most influential developments in computing?
3. What do you think will be the next “big thing” in computing?

As you can see, the assignment options are very broad. We have structured them that way so that you have a lot of flexibility and can pick something truly interesting to you. However, you are writing a rather brief paper (3 pages). When you have selected a topic, think about how you can focus in on a specific area or feature. You must deliver a narrow and somewhat detailed paper, and not a paper that is too broad and lacking in specifics.

Paper details

Your paper must contain the following sections.

1. An Introduction, a statement of your goal (an expansion of one of the three questions above).
2. Some Personal Background regarding why you selected this topic. What interested you? What did you find fascinating or innovative about this development, technology or idea?
3. Why this paper topic is relevant to the field of computing (Relevance). This should be the longest section of your paper. Support your topic selection by citing others who also feel this topic/technology/development is influential. Be sure you include some research-based evidence to support your claims, and properly cite your sources.
4. A Summary of your thoughts.
5. A correctly formatted References page showing all documents referenced in your paper. Your references page should only include those documents you directly cite in your paper. You should use the IEEE citation format – see below for sample citations.
Your paper must be three pages long. Include a separate page for your references as well as a title page. Your title page should include the team members’ names and the title of your paper. Do not count the title page or your reference pages in the three page length. Papers too short or too long will be penalized. Use a 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, and standard 1 inch margins.

About your sources

- You should focus on peer-reviewed resources. If you’re not sure how to find peer-reviewed resources, go to the library; there are lots of friendly people waiting to help you.

Mr. Koshykar talked about using different types of resources. To help you decide which are appropriate, refer to this list:

These types of sources are generally reliable and creditable:
Books, academic journals, conference proceedings, published white papers, government information sites. Generally speaking, these are reliable and credible because they are peer reviewed.

These types of sources are sometimes reliable and creditable although you need to use your best judgment when evaluating:
News sites (network news sites tend to be reliable (although usually not peer reviewed), but be careful using technology “news” publication sites.

Sparingly (if at all) use these sites:
Internet sources (including Wikipedia), blogs, personal or organization sites where you are not familiar with the credibility of the authors.

Ask yourself: Is it opinion or is it fact based? Who is the author and what are his/her credentials?

Be sure you carefully cite and acknowledge all your sources. We will submit your paper to a plagiarism detection site (as is very typical in college courses) so be sure you are paraphrasing and correctly citing all sources.

Citations

The citations below are copied from the IEEE publication template available at http://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/publishing/templates.html

*If you use a tool from the library or one of the databases, you still need to edit the citations because they are not always correct or complete.*
Unless there are six authors or more give all authors’ names; do not use “et al.”. Papers that have not been published, even if they have been submitted for publication, should be cited as “unpublished” [4]. Papers that have been accepted for publication should be cited as “in press” [5]. Capitalize only the first word in a paper title, except for proper nouns and element symbols.


Deliverables

This project is broken into 6 deliverables designed to provide you with plenty of feedback.

For all dropbox deliverables: You will be working with a partner, and only one of you should submit. **However, you are both responsible for ensuring the submissions are made to the dropbox.**

Spelling, grammar, and solid writing are important grade components. Be sure to review your work before you submit so you will not be disappointed with your grade.

*Be sure all names are included in all deliverables you submit.*

*All files submitted to the dropbox will undergo a plagiarism checker.*

*All files submitted to the dropbox must be in either .doc, .docx or .pdf format.*
1. Sunday, September 21: Team list and topic are due. Submit a file containing both names and a one-paragraph summary of what you plan to do. Submit to the myCourses dropbox “Project – Team List”.

2. Sunday, October 5: A full Idea Paper will be due. This paper must include your topic and which of the three questions you will be addressing along with at least 2 complete paragraphs describing your goals. Submit to the myCourses dropbox titled “Project – Idea Paper.”

3. Sunday, November 9: Your initial draft of your paper will be due. At this point, you should have a very good idea of what you want to say for each of the required sections. Grammar and spelling count so watch the details. Submit to the myCourses dropbox titled “Project - Paper Draft.”

4. Sunday, November 30: Final papers are due to the myCourses dropbox titled “Project - Paper Final” by 11:59 pm.

5. Dates to be Scheduled: In-class presentation to the class. Your team must equally participate in the presentation. You are free to use visual aids (PowerPoint, handouts, a demo, etc.). A signup will be available later in the semester.

6. Team and self evaluation. Submit an evaluation describing your contributions and your partner’s contributions to the project. A template will be provided. The evaluation is due by midnight on the day you present in class. Submit to the myCourses dropbox titled “Project - Evaluation”

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Idea Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Paper Draft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Final Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Evaluation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember everything counts – content, appearance, grammar, spelling and the correct use of citations and references. Pay attention to the details. If you are using another person’s ideas, diagrams, pictures, etc --- you must cite your sources!

Rev. 9/4/2014 by tmh