

# COMP3821/9801: Extended Algorithm Design and Analysis

*Project Final Report Specification and Marking Rubric*

Due Date: 23/11/2025

This document outlines the specification for the final report, and provides the marking rubric that will be used for grading.

## Report Specification

Your final report submission should contain the following:

1. A cover page with your topic title, group number, and the names and zIDs of each of your group members.
2. An introduction briefly reminding your marker of your chosen topic and describing the nature of your project (theoretical, scholarly, experimental, educational, creative, or other). This should be at most a few sentences.
3. A main body of which the content will vary depending on the nature of your project. For the majority of projects, this will contain:
  - a background survey of the literature,
  - a description of any implementation work you conducted, including a link to a code repository,
  - a description of any experiments conducted, and
  - a discussion of your results.

You need only include whichever items are applicable to your project. For example, in a purely scholarly project, this section would comprise almost entirely of a survey of literature!

How your group chooses to present this information is up to you. It is not necessary to use these four section headings. For example, it can sometimes be better to mix discussion in with descriptions of experiments.

4. Some brief concluding remarks on the work you have completed. You should mention any major points of interest you discovered throughout the project, and identify any potential future work to extend your project further.
5. The length of the report should be approximately 10 pages, excluding cover page, references and appendices. You may include appendices if you wish to present additional material that is relevant to your project but not essential to the main body of the report (for example, extended proofs, or additional experimental results). Giving links to public or private code repositories or additional material is encouraged where relevant.

# Marking Rubric

## Background [5 Marks]

Grade	Level of Achievement
0–1	Insufficient background reading has been presented given the tasks tackled in the project. There may be some sources presented, but it is clear that there are significant holes in the research. The work completed during the project does not seem motivated by the background.
2–3	The necessary background for the topic has been briefly discussed, but neglects significant aspects. Sources are adequately referenced where appropriate. The work completed during the project is somewhat motivated by the background reading, but it is not clear this sits in the broader context of the field of study.
4–5	A wide range of sources are discussed and appropriately referenced. The students have explained their motivation for the topic, and have placed their work in the context of the field of study.

## Body of Work [25 Marks]

Grade	Level of Achievement
0–10	The standard of work demonstrates a lack of understanding of the topic, and minimal effort invested. The aims of the project have not been satisfied. Technical quality is poor.
11–15	The body of work, while incomplete, shows progress towards the original aims of the project and is partly functional or correct. The effort produced is reasonable. Technical quality is okay.
16–20	The body of work is partly completed, and is close to the original aims of the project. There is some scope for improvement. The effort invested is satisfactory. Technical quality is reasonable.
21–23	The body of work is essentially complete, although may require minor refinements in order to fully meet the aims of the project. Significant effort has been invested and the technical quality is solid.
24–25	The body of work is complete and correct, and fully satisfies the aims of the project. The effort spent to complete the work is impressive. The technical quality of the work is excellent.

## Conclusion [5 Marks]

Grade	Level of Achievement
0–1	No conclusions have been drawn from the work done throughout the project. Little consideration has been given to future work or ways to improve the project.
2–3	Some effort has been made to summarise the key ideas of the work. Some consideration has been given to future work and ways to improve the project.
4–5	The conclusions drawn tie in nicely with both the background and the body of work. Significant consideration has been given to future work, including extensions to the project or ways to improve the overall quality.

### **Document Presentation [5 Marks]**

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<b>Grade</b>	<b>Level of Achievement</b>
0–1	Presentation is poor to the extent that it impedes reading of the document. Examples include many incomplete citations, unintelligible grammar, figures or tables not labelled or badly inconsistent document formatting. The report may deviate by more than 50% from the specified report length.
2–3	Appropriate use of section and sub-section heading structures. Figures and diagrams are labelled, formatting is consistent, references in text match reference list (and vice versa), pictures are clear and attributed, sections clearly labelled. There may be superfluous material present, such as unnecessary, repetitive or unusually large figures, unnecessarily lengthy text, unusually wide margins, unnecessary appendices, or a deviation of more than 20% from the specified report length, etc.
4–5	Everything from above, and appropriate judgement in the placement data, tables or figures in the body of the work or the appendices. Figures and diagrams are correctly and clearly labelled, text spacing aids readability, consistent formatting. Text is clear and concise. The length of the report adheres to the guidelines (8-12 pages excluding cover page, references, and appendices).

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