Scuola universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana
Dipartimento tecnologie innovative
Istituto sistemi informativi e networking

SUPSI

Individual course essays

- An individual written essay is to be submitted in partial requirement for Software Engineering and Development I

- The essay is meant as a means of investigating the chosen topic, by reviewing and comparing the relevant literature

- It is also meant for students to get acquainted with the organization and writing of a work of academic nature

- The work is to be submitted in digital form (PDF), in a branch named `assignment` in your personal GIT repository, on the last lecture of the course, at the latest

SUPSI

Rules

- Language
    - English
    - Italian (should English be problematic)

- Length:
    - min 2'500 words, max 3'000 words
    - titles, captions, indexes, and bibliography excluded

- Font:
    - Garamond or Times New Roman
    - size: 12

Bibliography and citations

- **Bibliography**
  - course bibliography
  - any other AUTHORATIVE! bibliography of your choice
  - encyclopedia:
    - Britannica (you may access the Britannica Online with your NETid, through the library)
    - en.wikipedia.org

- **Citations**
  - citations are compulsory
  - you should properly and coherently use the Harvard, APA, or IEEE citation methods
  - plagiarism will not be tolerated
  - anyone found guilty of plagiarism will get a 2 as a final evaluation

Titles

- Software Processes and Approaches to *Change*

- Requirements Engineering and Software Evolution

- Architectural Design and Software Evolution

- Software Testing and Software Evolution

- Dependable Systems

Essay structure

- **Abstract:** preliminary section, half a page, **must summarize your work**, with a paragraph for each of the chapters below (1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)
    - it must provide a quick but complete overview of your work (and is written last)

- **Introduction**: it is a "mechanical" chapter, **must be written as a textual index**
    - it must provide a guidance to the reader, so that she knows what is what (and it is written second last)

- **1) Motivation and context**: must indicate why you are doing this work and what is the context of the work
    - it must provide an initial introduction to the topic

- **2) Problem**: must explain the problem you are approaching

- **3) Review of relevant literature**: given (2) must review the relevant literature and state-of-the-art

- **4) Comparison and evaluation**: given (3) must report and evaluate possible approaches to solve (2)

- **5) Conclusions**: must conclude by expressing the limits of your work, given the starting point (2), given what was learnt (3) and reported in (4)

Evaluation criteria

- Form
  - language (syntax and adequate technical/scientific vocabulary)
  - structure (adherence to the given structure and to the expected content of each section)
  - length (in between the given limits: not more, not less)
  - correct and coherent use of citations (based on the chosed citation method)
  - font (one of the two given fonts)

- Content
  - adherence to the chosen topic
  - quality and quantity
  - interpretation of the title

- Bibliography
  - quality and quantity