CSc 6220 Project Guidelines

The goal is to comprehend and summarize in your own words the published works in the research area of computer networks and identify an open problem in this area. Graduate students are expected to propose a possible solution. Simulations or analysis to back up the proposed methods would be a plus.

Important dates:
- **Friday, September 13**: Topic selection. Email this to abourgeois@gsu.edu to ensure that your topic has not been selected. Only one student should work on a particular topic. The earlier you choose, the more likely that you will be able to select your preferred topic. Try to be as specific as possible. For instance, you should select something like "Load balancing in P2P networks" rather than simply "P2P networks".
- **Friday, October 26**: Proposal due. It should be at least 1 page but not more than 3 pages. You should mention briefly the goal of your project or the problem; and if you know how you are going to achieve that (any techniques or methods that you are planning to use in order to solve the problem at hand or achieve the goal. If you are extending the work from a specific journal paper then you should give reference to some of the literature that is the basis of your project.
- **November 26 & 28**: 25 minute in class presentation.
- **Friday, December 7**: Final report due.

Report Format:
Refer to the IEEE guidelines for conference proceedings found here. Report should be up to 8 pages.

Introduction
- Why your topic is important (convince us!)
- Where is it used? Applications
- What you will talk about/do
- Overview of the rest of your paper
- (section 2 covers...section 3 presents...)

Background and related work
- Any relevant and specific info e.g. software/ hardware statistics, equipment used
- What other people had to say on this topic(s) (be sure to cite your references, and quote as appropriate)
- What other people did on this topic (or related topics)
- Problems and shortcomings of their work
- How your work is different and better

Proposed methodology
- Your approach to the problem
- What you did
- Code
- What you already had (and where it came from)
- What you added/changed for code listings, include in appendix

- What did/didn't work?
- Include graphs, equations, pictures, etc. as appropriate
- Results

Conclusions
- What was accomplished / learned
- What you would have done differently
- Future work

References

Appendix (optional)
- Include a copy of the code used