Term papers

Term papers must adhere to the following rules:

- They consist of minimal 3,500 words (about 7 pages) and maximal 12,500 words (about 25 pages).
- The front page contains at least the following information: title, student name (first and last), student registration number, date, course, and a word count of the whole document.
- We require every term paper to include the statement "I (We), NAME(S), declare this term paper to be my (our), own original work" on the final page.

Some general advice on term paper writing:

- The paper starts with an introduction which at least:
  - Describes the context of the problem,
  - Motivates relevance of the problem,
  - Formulates a problem statement,
  - Describes the approach taken in the rest of the paper towards answering the problem statement.
- The paper contains a conclusion, which at least:
  - Summarizes the findings in the paper,
  - Expresses the author's opinion on the problem, based on the contents of the term paper.
- The paper contains a list of used or related literature.
  - Entries in this list contain at least an identifier of the paper, the author(s), the title, the publication venue (which journal, conference, book), page numbers, publication year. Example:

    [1] *An algorithm for probabilistic alternating simulation.* Chenyi Zhang and Jun Pang. In Proc. 38th Conference on Current Trends in Theory and Practice of Computer Science - SOFSEM'12, Lecture Notes in Computer Science 7147, pp. 431-442. Springer-Verlag, 2012.

  - Web pages and websites are *not* cited. If they are relevant, they can be added in a footnote or in a separate list "Internet sources" at the end.
  - Every item in the list of literature is used in the body of the paper, where "used" means it is mentioned in one form or another. Where it is used, its use is identified as such by using its identifier, like [1] so. An item that is not thusly referred to in the text, has no place in the list of literature.
- Citing sources:
  - When copying or adapting text, formulas, figures, etc. from other documents, web pages, etc. this must be explicitly stated. Literal quotations must be surrounded by quotation marks and labelled with the identifier. When paraphrasing a source, sources must be referenced at the place where they are used.
  - Note: **copying text without properly referencing the source is plagiarism**. Plagiarism is considered fraud and will be treated as such. Consequences can be: an unsatisfactory mark, having to redo the course next year, or worse.
- Figures, tables, etc. must:
  - Have a caption, containing at least the number and the title of the figure.
  - Be referenced (through its number) and described in the body text of the term paper (see e.g. Figure 1).
- Language.
  - The paper must be written in correct English.
  - The paper must be spell checked.