**ECCS 1611 – Machine Problem (MP) Initial Grading Criteria**

Machine Problems (MPs) are assignments that allow you to synthesize your course knowledge to-date into a working program. As our goal is for you to be successful, we strongly encourage you to test your code thoroughly before its due date. However, please note that your code is evaluated for correctness **only during lab on the specified date – no sooner, no later**. It is to your advantage to have your MP tested as early as possible during your lab session; if we find something wrong, you have until the end of that lab session to correct the error and submit for retesting.

**Program Specifications and Correctness – 50%**

This section is weighted the greatest as it is essential that a program submission meets the given specifications (which could be problem-related and/or course-related) and consistently provides correct answers. In Programming 1, unless otherwise noted we will assume correct input.

**Readability – 30%**

Your program’s source code needs to be readable. Programming is not a solitary activity – in the real world, it is often the case that others will need to use – and even read! – your code for their programming needs. Among the ways that we can make code readable are the following:

* Organization: Organize code into recognizable sections through use of blank lines.
* Separation: Use whitespace to help appropriately separate program parts through use of spaces and tabs.
* Alignment: Use indentation consistently for similar structures; for blocks of code, this includes the location of your curly braces.
* Nomenclature: Give variables meaningful, descriptive names.
* Consistency: Practice a consistent style

**Documentation – 20%**

Programs need to include comments to capture relevant information that can’t be provided as code.

* Header Comments: Every program starts with a header comment that, at a minimum, contains the name of the file, the date of its writing, the full name of its author, and a description of what the program does.
* Section Comments: Each section of code should start with a comment explaining what’s going on in that section.
* Code Comments: Variable declarations, as warranted, should include a single-line comment for providing anything that’s considered essential information.