

# **CS3997 Professional Practice**

## **Fall 2022**

### ***Potential Report Topics***

Send email to me with your top 3 choices of topic AND your stance on the topic (PRO or CON) in order. I will try my best to satisfy these requests on a first-come first-serve basis, with the idea of spreading out topics amongst the class. If you have a topic of your own you would like to research then propose it.

Feel free to discuss any ideas, concerns, or subtopics of the given topics with the instructor. Ensure that there are sufficient references on your topic, since this is the foundation of your research.

Your report will need to be 3500-4000 words long. It needs to be supported by at least 8 \*primary\* references, at least 4 of which must \*not\* be Internet-only references (consult the instructor for certain special cases like electronic peer-reviewed scientific journals).

For each Report deliverable you are responsible to submit it electronically through Desire2Learn by 10am on the due date. Failure to submit your work will result in a ZERO for that piece of work.

### ***Sample Topics***

1. Canada should have laws against circumventing technological anti-copying measures.
2. Internet service providers should provide content filtering services.
3. All computer scientists/software developers should be accredited by a professional body.
4. Publicly funded research should be freely available via "Open Access" publications.
5. Individual computer scientists are responsible for the applications of their work.
6. The benefits of software patents outweigh the harm.
7. The benefits of using open source software in business outweigh the risks.
8. Security problems should always be publicly disclosed.
9. Crime on the internet requires fundamentally new laws.
10. Software developers should be liable for the software that they develop.

### ***Report Deliverables***

October 11: Report Proposal, consisting of a title and a 200-300 word paragraph discussing your topic. This can include your opinion as to why it is relevant, interesting, worthwhile, and feasible. You should also include at least one technical reference (not counted in the 200-300 words), so that I know you have a starting point for your investigations.

October 25: Report Outline, consisting of about 1 page that shows the intended structure of your report. This should include some information about each section that discusses what will be in it (so this should not be just a skeleton with section titles – each subsection should include some

basic information). You can change your organization later if you find that your initial organization does not suit your discussion.

November 15: Report Draft. This draft needs to include your basic structure and at least 2/3 of your content. It will be marked for basic structure and content only, not style.

December 8: Technical Report, to be 3500-4000 words long and include at least 8 references, at least 3 of which must be non-Internet references. Please note that most reports need more references to properly support their points, and you should use as many more as the work needs.

November 29 – December 8 (exact schedule to be determined): an oral presentation of your report.