

CSEN 4201
Software Engineering
Senior Design Project

Fall Semester 2016

preliminary and final proposals

- preliminary proposal
 - is the first major version of your proposal
 - should be a well thought out, well written, self contained initial version of your proposal
 - a finished and proofed document
 - intention/purpose:
 - get feedback on technical content
 - get suggestions on additions/modifications
 - serve as solid input for final proposal
- final proposal
 - incorporates/reflects all feedback on preliminary proposal
 - becomes defining document for the project

purpose of a proposal is...

- serve as a selling document
 - convinces your reader the project is worth doing, and that you can do it
- establishes (and bounds) scope of work for a project
- serves as a team planning document
 - team involvement and buy-in establishes common understanding of project

should include information on

- clear statement of problem being investigated
 - helps establish boundaries
- objectives
- planned technical approach
 - generating design concepts (alternatives)
 - selecting among design concepts
- project management
 - deliverables
 - schedule
 - testing plan

use beyond proposal

- some material likely relevant beyond single document
- example:
 - material that contextualizes project / places into context of existing work/research
 - material that considers design alternatives
 - along with any rationale that will guide choices among competing alternatives
- such material can naturally become part of overall project write up

proposal length

- can vary considerably by project type
- in general:
 - preliminary: ~10 single spaced pages (including figures, tables, charts, etc.)
 - final: 15 – 20 single spaced pages

scheduling notes

- preliminary proposal hand-in date
 - 14 October
- final proposal hand-in
 - late November
- team presentations of proposals
 - to be announced

