

CS581– Assignment 1

Tasks for this week:

1. Explore the course Canvas site. If you have not already done so, set up your profile on Canvas. You only have to do it once, and it applies to all of your courses.
2. DISCUSSION: Post a discussion comment in the Introductions discussion. The discussion board is the major factor in the participation portion of your grade. Regular meaningful contributions to the discussions can even raise your final grade if you are near a grade threshold.

Possible topics for this week:

- Introduce yourself briefly.
 - Discuss something about your online social network experience.
 - Anything else you wish to share.
3. Complete the following assignment:
 - Read Chapter 1 of the text – Networks, Crowds and Markets: Reasoning about a highly connected world by David Easley and Jon Kleinberg. The text is available in the Resources module of the course Canvas site or downloadable online at <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/home/kleinber/networks-book/>
 - Listen to the presentation for this week: Online_Social_Networks.mp4
The associated PPTX file is also posted on Canvas.
 - Study the slides in Intro_Networks_Stanford.pdf. These provide additional valuable introductory material on social networks.
 - Read the article: *60+ Social Networking Sites You Need to Know About in 2018.pdf*. This is an interesting survey of popular and obscure social networking sites. You may find it easier to read it online at this link: <https://makeawebsitehub.com/social-media-sites/>
 - Write a 300-word-minimum paper about your use of online social networks. It can include any or all of the following information:
 - How long ago did you first start using online social networks?
 - Which of the online social networks have you used? For each one, describe what you use it for and how often you go to the site.
 - Which site(s) you do you use to communicate with friends? Family? Colleagues?
 - Do you use real-time chat sites? (If so, which ones)
 - Do you post videos on any social network sites? (If so, explain)
 - Do you live stream video on any social network sites? (If so, explain)
 - Do you use any ephemeral (disappearing) content? (If so, explain)
 - Do you purchase anything from any social network sites? (If so, explain)
 - Do you have more than one account on any social network site? (For example, one for personal use and one for professional use. If so, explain)

Note on writing for assignments: all written work must use complete sentences and proper grammar. If you need help with writing, Stevens has a Writing and Communications Center that – despite its misleading URL – is available for both undergraduate and graduate students:

<https://www.stevens.edu/academics/undergraduate-studies/writing-communications-center>