

BILKENT UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

CS 461 – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

GUIDELINES RE TERM PROJECT REPORT

Your term project report --- which is worth 15% (30 points) of your grade --- should be **2,000 words min and 2,500 words max**. State the number of words at the very end of your report. You will lose credit if you submit a report that is shorter or longer. You are expected to submit a **stapled hardcopy (a single staple!)** with **project nick in block capitals and contributing (if you know what I mean) members' names on the cover page**. Pages should be **numbered**. Make sure that there are no smudges or creases and that the print quality is good. And do not use a very small font.

Submit your code as an **appendix** of your report. Pages of code listing should also be **numbered**.

ONLY THE CODE YOU'VE WRITTEN (VIZ. ORIGINAL CODE) SHOULD BE LISTED; ALL OTHER PROGRAMS, TOOLS, LIBRARIES, ETC. YOU'VE USED SHOULD BE PROPERLY MENTIONED BUT NOT LISTED.

It is a good idea to include many test runs. People usually ask me what I mean by 'many' in this context. A short answer would be: **at least 10**. (Puzzle screenshots can just be black & white but feel free to have color copies, if you have the means.)

The report should be prepared using a typesetting package such as MS Word or LaTeX. If there are mathematical formulas in your report, they should look pleasant. Ditto for tables or figures. **No handwritten or hand drawn stuff anywhere!**

It is true that the essence of your project is the original code you wrote. However, your report is crucial too; it tells the entire story of your project, viz. the algorithms and data structures you've used, the results you've obtained, etc. in the space of 2,000-2,500 words. Accordingly, it should not be a superficial write-up that does little to enlighten the reader; it should be a crisp, technical, and informative document.

You must have at least **3 bibliographic references** to scientific papers belonging to the area of AI and crossword puzzles. (See your term project proposal *re* how you should cite your references.)

You should not explain the work that you've done to download the puzzle. You should only explain the AI aspects of your program. To repeat, the work you've done to download and display the puzzle is valuable but should not be presented in this report. Just explain, in considerable detail, the strategy you've followed to modify the clues. (On the other hand, the code you've written to download the puzzle should be included in the appendix, cf. above.)

Make sure that you **spell-check your report immediately before you submit it** and make an effort to write short, grammatical sentences. It is always a good idea to receive editorial help from a native speaker.

The following paragraph should be included **verbatim** at the end of your report (immediately before the word count):

This project reports work done in partial fulfillment of the requirements for CS 461 -- Artificial Intelligence. The software is, to a large extent, original (with borrowed code clearly identified) and was written solely by members of the project group <insert project nick here in block capitals>.

Code, footnotes, figures, tables, graphs, screenshots, and bibliographic references are not included in the word count. (The preceding disclaimer is not included either!)

The closing date to hand in your report is **Fri 27 Dec 2019 (end of my afternoon lecture sharp, i.e., 16:30)**. Obviously, you can submit earlier, in which case you can drop your report in my mailbox in the department. **Late reports will lose 5 points immediately and then 5 points for every late day.**

LAST WORD

YOUR REPORT COMPRISES HARD WORK THAT YOUR GROUP SHOULD BE PROUD OF. THIS MEANS THAT ITS APPEARANCE AND FORMAT SHOULD ALSO BE APPEALING TO A READER (E.G., YOURS TRULY). CHECK EACH AND EVERY PAGE IN ORDER TO PREVENT MISHAPS.