6 – A clear, coherent, well-written paper that includes most, if not all, of the important points. The answer presents the information in a new and interesting way, makes strong connections between different topics in the course, provides an insightful analysis of the problem, and/or demonstrates that the writer has carefully considered what information to include and what information to omit.

5 – A paper that is generally correct and touches on most of the important points, but  
that has one or more minor errors in terminology, concept or grammar. The answer presents the information in an interesting way, makes good connections between different topics in the course, provides a reasonable analysis of the problem, and/or demonstrates that the writer has put some thought into what information to include and what information to omit.

4 – A paper that touches on only some of the important points, and that has consistent errors in terminology, concept, or grammar, or that is poorly organized. The paper presents the information in a different way than it was presented in the class notes and references, makes some reference to different topics in the course, makes an attempt to present an analysis of the problem, and/or provides evidence that the writer has made conscious decisions about the  
content of the paper.

3 – A paper that is off the mark conceptually but that shows some general understanding of the topic. A paper can also receive this score if it simply repeats the information as it was given in the class notes or references, if it makes no analysis of the problem, if it makes no connections between different topics in the course.

2 – A paper that is basically conceptually inaccurate, but that shows a minimal understanding of relevant topics. A paper can also receive this score if it presents interesting ideas very poorly as a result of bad organization and grammar.

1 – A paper that is inaccurate in most ways or virtually unreadable.

0 – No paper submitted.

Guidelines

* Adhere to the specified Harvard reference style
* Use citations appropriately (error on too many, but not every sentence needs a citation)
* Use the minimal number of references
* Develop a high-quality figure for your paper
* Use office hours to clarify your ideas
* Use the campus writing resources to improve your writing if necessary

Penalties

* Not enough refs or wrong format: -0.5
* No refs: -1
* No figure: -1
* Bad figure, or not original: -0.5
* No abstracts: -0.5