

Term Project

Introduction

During this project you will create a presentation on topics in computing that go beyond the scope of the main course material. You already have questions and supporting research materials from earlier assignments to start from. The instructions below will guide you through the steps of 1) extracting information from your sources, 2) massaging your questions and findings into a cohesive topic, 3) creating a PowerPoint presentation, and 4) evaluating each others' work.

Teamwork is very important for this project. The wiki environment has been provided to help you organize your team and collect your work asynchronously. Collaborating online is not without its difficulties however; responsibility is often diluted without face-to-face contact! Constant communication is the key to keep your team working and meeting deadlines.

The project has been split into multiple tasks (each with it's own deadline) to give you more opportunities for feedback and provide checkpoints to make sure your team is working well together. Be sure to incorporate the feedback you're given, and contact your instructor immediately if you have any difficulties along the way!

Examples of the expected results for each task will be posted on the wiki.

Task 1

For **each** of your sources:

1. Extract the information from the source into **point-form**.

Tips on writing good point form:

- Never copy/paste text from your source
 - re-writing in your own words will help to avoid plagiarism
 - exception: quoting what someone has said
 - mark quotes with "..." and the quoted person's name
 - don't use many of these
- Keep points short
 - often less than full sentences
- Avoid
 - conjunctions
 - adjectives
 - pronouns
- break complex ideas into multiple parts
- these instructions are a good example!

2. Edit your point-form
 - rearrange points to bring related information together
 - add hierarchy to improve organization
 - remove points that are not relevant to the question
 - remove as many words as possible, as long as it still makes sense!
3. Clearly mark each point (or branch) as a statement of **Fact** or **Opinion** Fact versus Opinion

Opinions:

- tell us about **people** and **society**
- are most interesting when contrasted with other opinions
- worth depends on **who** gave the opinion

Facts

- tell us about **reality** outside of people
- can be true or false
- worth depends on the **evidence** that supports it

Facts and opinions should be presented very differently when answering a question!

Marks for this task:

Good point form	10
Well organized with heirarchy	5
Marked fact vs opinion	5

Task 2

1. Re-group your points by the questions they are most relevant to
 - if a question does not have many points, consider dropping it from your report
 - if a question has an abundance of points, consider splitting it into more manageable pieces
2. Decide on an overall **topic** for your report that encompasses all of your questions
3. Reformulate your questions as *aspects* of your topic
4. Write some **introductory** points for your topic, for example:
 - what the topic is and what aspects you will cover
 - why the topic is interesting and/or important
 - who your team is
5. Write some **concluding** points for your topic, for example:
 - what firm answers you have reached versus what needs further research
 - what new questions has your topic has left open
 - where readers can go for more information
6. **Edit** your points so that
 - the overall topic is clear and cohesive
 - everything makes sense when read from top to bottom
 - your use of hierarchy allows the report to make sense from just its top-level points
7. Cite your sources separately at the bottom of your report

Marks for this task:

Good point form	5
Cohesive topic	5
Introduction	5
Conclusion	5
Well edited and organized	10

Task 3

1. Create a PowerPoint slide deck based on your notes from Task 2, including:
 - a title slide
 - an introductory slide
 - at least one slide for each question
 - a concluding slide
 - topical images and media
2. Add presenters notes for each slide
3. Record an audio track for your presentation
4. Add proper attribution for all sources, media, and team members
5. Attach your completed slide deck to your wiki page so the whole class can see it!
(use the “File” button on the editing toolbar)

Marks for this task:

Title slide	5
Introduction	5
Conclusion	5
Answers to questions	5
Presenters notes	10
Attribution	5
Consistency	5
Organization	5
Use of graphics/media	5
Use of transitions/animations	5
Audio recording	10

Task 4

Use the forms available on D2L for this task.

1. Complete a group evaluation form for your team
2. Complete peer evaluations for the presentations from 2 other teams

Marks for this task:

Submitted group evaluation	3
Submitted 2 peer evaluations	5
Evaluation from classmates	17

Submission

Task	Submit to	Marks	Deadline
Task 1	complete on wiki	20	
Task 2	complete on wiki	30	
Task 3	attach PPT to wiki	65	
Task 4	submit forms to dropbox on D2L	25	
Total		140	

Note:

Although the marks for Tasks 1–3 are shared for all members of your team, your final mark may be adjusted depending on your group's evaluation of your teamwork!