Literature Review Guidance

Overview

As part of your literature review project, you are required to read and analyze one peer-reviewed research papers relevant to your area of study. The goal of this task is to deepen your understanding of the current state of research in your field and to identify how existing work can inform and support your upcoming capstone project.

Task Breakdown

1. Selection of Papers

- Choose one research papers that are directly related to your area of interest and your anticipated capstone project. The paper should be from reputable journals or conference proceedings.

- **Ensure there is no overlap of selected papers within your group.** You must coordinate with your team members to confirm that everyone is reviewing unique papers. Failure to ensure unique selections within your group will result in a deduction of points.

2. Summary and Analysis

For each paper, provide a detailed summary that includes the following sections:

- **Background/Motivation:**
    - Describe the context in which the research was conducted.
    - What problem or gap in the existing literature does the paper aim to address?
    - Discuss the significance of the research question and why it is important.

- **Methods Used:**
    - Summarize the methodologies employed by the authors.
    - Explain how these methods are suited to address the research question.
    - Discuss any innovative approaches or techniques that are particularly noteworthy.

- **Significance of the Work:**
    - Highlight the key findings and contributions of the paper.
    - Explain why the results are important within the broader context of the field.

- Discuss the implications of the findings for future research or practice.

- **Connection to Other Work:**

  - Relate the paper to other relevant studies.
  - How does this paper build on or differ from previous work?
  - Identify any references to seminal works or influential papers cited by the authors.

- **Relevance to Capstone Project:**

  - Discuss how the content of the paper might be relevant to your own capstone project.
  - Identify any specific methods, theories, or findings that you might incorporate into your project.
  - Highlight any potential areas where your capstone could expand upon or diverge from the paper's findings.

3. Formatting and Submission

- Your summaries should be concise but thorough, with more than 1,000 words.

- Use proper academic writing standards, including citations and references in APA or IEEE format.

- Submit your summaries as a single document via Canvas by the deadline.

- Enter your summary into a single document using Overleaf or your GitHub Website, then export it as a single PDF for submission on Canvas.

Grading Metric

Your literature review will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Selection of Papers (10%)**
  Relevance of the selected papers to your field and capstone project.
  Originality in selection, ensuring no overlap with team members' papers.

- **Background/Motivation (20%)**
  Clarity and depth of understanding of the research problem.
  Explanation of the significance of the research question.

- **Methods Used (20%)**
  Accurate and clear summary of the methodologies.
  Critical analysis of the methods' suitability and innovation.

- **Significance of the Work (20%)**
  Identification of key findings and their implications.
  Understanding of the paper's contributions to the field.

- **Connection to Other Work (15%)**
  Ability to relate the paper to existing literature.
  Critical analysis of how the paper builds upon or diverges from other work.

- **Relevance to Capstone Project (15%)**
  Insightful connections made between the paper and your capstone project.
  Identification of specific elements that could inform your project.

- **Formatting and Writing (10%)**
  Adherence to academic writing standards.
  Clarity, coherence, and organization of the summaries.

This project is designed to help you engage critically with existing research and to lay a strong foundation for your capstone project. Please reach out if you have any questions or need further guidance.