

CSC 450, Senior Research Literature Review and Research Outline

1. Write a **literature review** (approximately 1 page) that contains background information about your topic, discusses related work, and motivates the research question you are investigating or topic you are pursuing. **The literature review must reference at least 8 research articles.** The literature review will serve as a basis for the introduction to your paper, provide points for discussion, and generate ideas regarding methodology. However, the literature review does not describe your specific project, only work that has been done in related areas. Note that *related* work includes work related to any aspect of your project, whether it relate to the general topic, the specific question, or related methodologies.
2. Write an **outline** for your paper. The outline must consist of the section headings (below), and 3-5 bulleted points for each section. The outline consists of major points that can be filled in as you write your paper. The section headings include the following: Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, and Discussion. If appropriate, an alternate set of section headings can be used with my approval. Note that the Results section should be an unbiased presentation of the results, while the Discussion interprets the results, puts them in the context of the topic, and discusses their significance, limitations, and future work (see notes for an example).
3. If you are working in a group, you must include a **contribution** section that clearly states the contribution of each individual. For each person, state how the literature review and outline were divided up. Only one person should submit the assignment. If you are working by yourself, you do not need to complete this section.

You must submit this assignment through Blackboard by the beginning of class on the due date to receive credit. The assignment will be submitted through SafeAssign. The assignment may be submitted once before the due date so that you can look at the SafeAssign Report, and make changes as necessary (you will need to ask me to clear your submission if this is the case). Work that is plagiarized will not be accepted.