

CSC 450, Senior Research Research Article Rubric

Your *research* article must describe an investigation in the area of computer science that is centered around a specific hypothesis that you will test or an objective you will meet by designing a method or model, collecting and analyzing data, and drawing conclusions using an appropriate and reproducible methodology. Your investigation and article must meet the standards of a computer science or scientific journal.

You must submit this assignment through Blackboard by the deadline on the due date to receive credit.

Note about grading: Your overall grade will generally be determined using the point system below, with the following exceptions:

- If you receive less than a 50% on one or more components, then your paper is "unacceptable", and you will receive a D-F grade overall.
- For the *rough draft*, you will SKIP the abstract and proceed as follows (select one of the following below):
 - You may *partially* complete the Results and Discussion sections as follows: Include the results you have, and discuss them, and use yellow highlighting for place holders for what will be filled in later. In this case, your Results section **must** include 1-2 figures and/or tables, and the Discussion should be complete with respect to your current results, limitations and future work. The methods section must be complete.
 - You may *complete* the Results section but skip the Discussion (this option is only used in rare cases)
- If your project involves Human Subjects Research, the online certification (<https://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php>) must be completed and turned in prior to or with the rough draft. An appropriate consent form must also be turned in at this time or prior.
- The rough draft must contain a link to your Github page, which must contain current code and/or data for your project.

Simplified example of incomplete results section:

We analyzed 1,553,281 tweets from the weekend of October 24-25, of which 3.4% of tweets had keywords relevant to our study. We found that 55% of tweets included keywords related to *cats* (e.g., cat, kitten, kitty) compared to 45% of tweets with keywords related to *dogs* (e.g., dog, puppy) (**Fig. 1**). We then analyzed whether preference for cat or dog varied across geographical regions in the United States. When we looked separately at tweets from the west, midwest, south, and northeast, we found that [results coming].

Note about Figure and Table captions

Figure captions appear *below* the figure while table captions appear *above* the table. All figures and tables are independently numbered starting with 1 (e.g. a paper can include **Fig. 1**, **Fig. 2**, **Table 1**, **Table 2**, etc). Table and figure captions *clearly* describe the information in the table or figure, and the reader should not have to refer to the main text to understand the table or figure. Tables and figures should always be centered and cited in the text (e.g., According to **Fig. 1**, ...). Table and Figure citations (e.g., **Fig. 1**) and caption labels (e.g., **Figure 1**) should be bold.

Tables and figures must reflect your own work and own data (for pointers, see: https://www.e-education.psu.edu/styleforstudents/c4_p12.html)

Project Rubric

Abstract

10 points

- A clear and concise summary of the research is presented in an organized manner
- The background, significance, objective, and methodology, and results are summarized
- The abstract ends with a concluding sentence about the project
- The abstract is limited to no more than 200 words

Introduction

15 points

- A clear and concise description of the significance, background, and important related work that is relevant to the Investigation
- Descriptions are supported by at least 4 references, cited in IEEE format
- The objective or hypothesis is clearly stated
- The last paragraph of the introduction briefly summarizes the study and describes the results that will be presented ("In this paper,")

Methodology

25 points

- The methodology used to carry out the project is described in sufficient detail so that the investigation can be repeated by others.
- Appropriate statistical tests are described, if applicable.
- If the paper includes developing a model or program, only the technical aspects (programming language, computational resources) are included here; the model or program is described in the Results section.
- References to previously used methods are included, if applicable.
- A link is included to your project page, which includes source code and/or data collected, or links to data already available

Results

25 points

- An unbiased presentation of the results, containing at least 2 graphs/tables per group member, and a minimum of 3 graphs/tables
- Graphs and tables are properly captioned, and referenced in the paper
- The text of this section points out the most important results, or trends, but does not unnecessarily repeat information in the tables or graphs.
- Enough methodological details are provided so that the reader knows how the results were generated, so this section can stand on its own.
- Details of the methodology that are not necessary for understanding the results are left to the Methods section, which is referenced, if applicable.

Discussion

25 points

- The results are put into the context of the discipline, and compared and contrasted with related work
- The significance of and limitations of the results are discussed
- Possible extensions and future work are also discussed
- The last paragraph summarizes the results from the paper
- The discussion is supported by at least 4 references, cited in IEEE format

Additional Requirements

- **Title:** The paper has a descriptive and specific title that accurately describes the project [5 point deduction if not met]
- **References:** The paper references at least 6 **research articles** that are appropriately cited in the manuscript and included in the *References* section using IEEE format. [paper is not acceptable if it does not contain any citations or any references]
- **Format:** The paper includes a title, which is followed by the Abstract, then beginning on the next page, the Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, Discussion, Author Contributions (if applicable), and References. All section headings are in bold. Figure and Table numbers are bold. The paper is approximately 6 pages, with 1" margins on all sides, font size 11 or 12, Times New Roman or Arial font, and double-spaced. The paper must be submitted as an MS Word document or a LaTeX file. [up to 10 point deduction if not met]
- **Spelling and Grammar:** The paper is well-written and contains few, if any spelling mistakes or grammatical mistakes that detract from the reader's ability to understand the paper [up to 20 point deduction if not met]
- **Reproducible Research:** Relevant software and data are made available on Github or a similar public repository so that the analysis can be replicated. A link to the repository and appropriate description is included in the Methods section. [up to 15 point deduction if not met]
- **Human Subjects Research (if applicable):** The online tutorial and consent form has been completed [research is not acceptable without online tutorial and consent form]
- **Revisions (final paper only):** The majority of my concerns are addressed and the majority of my suggested revisions are taken into account. Track changes is used for all changes to the paper [up to 20 point deduction if not met]
- **Author Contributions (group projects only):** An author contributions section is provided after the Discussion, that includes who developed each methods, carried out each analysis, and who wrote the paper (all must be involved in the latter), and additional contributions as appropriate. See below for an example [up to 10 point deduction if not met]

Author contributions

GMD designed the study. AFP developed the model, performed the experiment, and collected the data. GMD analyzed the data. GMD and AFP wrote the paper.