CSC 450, Lab Meeting #1 Rubric

Lab meetings are forums where researchers present and discuss their work, get feedback on how to improve their research and how to overcome any obstacles that they face.

For the audience, the purpose of the lab meeting is to learn about ongoing research projects, and to stay up-to-date with questions being asked and methods and tools that are being used and developed; for the presenters, the lab meeting is a chance to make sure that their projects are on track, that the research problem has maximum impact, and that the methodology is sound. A presenter should use the opportunity to provide background about the research project, and ask questions so that their project will be improved. For example, a presenter might ask, *what tools are available to develop agent-based models for simulations?* For these reasons, lab meetings should be relatively informal and should involve lots of discussion.

Your first lab meeting presentation will consist of three components:
1. Presentation of a *research* article related to your project that includes (1) relevant background; (2), a description of at least 2 figures/tables from the paper that describe a main result and the corresponding methods; (3) conclusions including any weaknesses or limitations of the paper.
2. A description of your research project that includes (1) the main objective and/or specific questions you plan to answer, if known, and (2) the general methodology you will use. If you are not sure what your objective will be at this point, then possible objectives should be stated so that we can discuss them.
3. Questions for the audience related to your project, designed to help you with your research project.

Presenters must do the following <u>before</u> your presentation:

1. **Submit your lab meeting through Blackboard prior to the beginning of class**.
2. **Post a "Question" on Piazza** that states your name and general research topic, and that includes a link to the article that you plan to discuss. Optionally you may post specific questions about your research project that will help you refine your topic or carry out your research.

Presentation of Research Article — 50 points

- *Title Page (1 slide)* — *5 points*
  - Contains a screenshot of article title, the names of all group members, date of the presentation, and a link to the article
- *Background and objective (1-2 slides)* — *10 points*
  - Background relevant for understanding the project, such as terminology, is clearly explained.
  - The objective of the paper is clearly stated.
- *Results (2-3 slides)* — *25 points*
  - Screenshots of at least two figures or tables from the article are presented
  - The figures and tables are clearly described, and include an explanation describing the methods leading to the results that are presented.
- *Conclusion (1 slide)* — *10 points*
  - The major conclusions of the article are clearly described.
  - Weaknesses or limitations of the article are clearly described.

Research Project — 50 points

- *Title page* — *5 points*
  - Contains a tentative title describing your research project or topic
- *Background (1 slide)* — *15 points*
  - Background related to your project is clearly explained
- *Proposed project (1-2 slides)* — *15 points*
  - The proposed research objective or question is described; or the research topic is described with possible objectives
  - Possible methods for carrying out the project is described
- *Questions (1 slide)* — *15 points*
  - At least **three** questions are asked of the audience
  - The questions are related to your project objective or methodology, and are designed to help you carry out or improve your project.

Additional Requirements

- Presentation is posted to Blackboard before class on the day of your presentation (only one group member needs to do this) [10 point deduction if not met]
- A "question" is posted to Piazza that includes a link to the article and states your research topic. Optionally, you may post specific questions about your research project that will help you refine your topic or carry out your research. [10 point deduction if not met]

TOTAL — 100 points