

Term Paper Specification

Basic Requirements

Length and Format:

- ___ 6000 - 8000 words, not including title, table of contents, or abstract.
- ___ Written in Latex (bibliography should be done in BibTex)

Organization:

- ___ Table of contents (latex will auto-generate this for you)
- ___ Use the sections provided here and in the latex template
- ___ Pages must be numbered (except for the title page and table of contents)
- ___ **You must attach a copy of this document to the front of your paper. Check off each requirement once you verify that you have satisfied it.**

Style and Grammar:

- ___ Must have practically no grammar/spelling errors.
- ___ Quotations must be short, single spaced, and indented properly.
- ___ You **may** hire a professional proofreader, but you must check with Dr. Turner first.

Citations:

- ___ Must use a standard format (IEEE, ACM, etc).
- ___ All facts/claims must be cited
- ___ Quotations must be cited
- ___ Must use primary sources and well regarded secondary sources only.
 - ___ The New York Times may be a well regarded secondary source
 - ___ Wikis are not valid primary or secondary sources
- ___ The paper must have a properly formatted bibliography with at least 10 annotated sources

Sections

[5%] Abstract

- ___ One or two sentences of context about your issue.
- ___ Provide your **focus question**.
- ___ Mention one or two relevant arguments.
- ___ Briefly explain your conclusion and why it is proper ethically.
- ___ Should be no more than one paragraph (100 words max)

[20%] Facts (2-3 pages):

- ___ General context of the issue
- ___ Only facts that clearly point to the issue/question at hand (you may add additional facts as needed in your analysis that aren't in your facts section)
- ___ The facts section should end up leading the reader to the question you are about to ask them (a controversy or a case ending poorly is a great way to do this).
- ___ Should not indicate **anything** about your answer to the question or hint at any particular conclusion.

[5%] Focus Question

- ___ **One** sentence (one question, not compound).
- ___ Should be focused on a particular case.
- ___ Should have a determinable yes or no answer that you will draw based on your research.
- ___ Should be followed (separately) by a paragraph explaining the importance of this question and its relevance to software engineers (why should we care?).

[20%] Others' Arguments

- ___ Summarize the main arguments others have made about the answers to your **focus question**.
- ___ Provide the state of research on your **focus question**.
- ___ Must be referenced appropriately
- ___ All statements must be a summary of the source's arguments, devoid of your opinions or biases on the issue.
- ___ Must (separately) cover arguments on both sides of your issue - that is, those that answer your focus question affirmatively and those that answer negatively.

[50%] Your Analysis

- ___ Should start with a paragraph showing why the SE Code applies to your **focus question**.
- ___ Sub-headings to delineate your lines of reasoning are required.
- ___ All arguments must be **thoroughly** supported by reason and logic.
- ___ All claims must be supported by reputable primary sources and formal data.
- ___ SE Code must be central to the argumentation
 - ___ You should have 2-4 distinct sections of the SE code utilized in your analysis
 - ___ If section 1 is central to your argument, it is only **one** of the code sections covered. Do not rely solely on section one. Ex: 1.01-1.04 will not suffice for all of your SE Code based arguments and citations.
 - ___ If discussion about “public good” is used, there **must** be data to support it. Simply writing “it benefits the general public because it would make many people happy” is insufficient.
- ___ Utilitarian and deontological analysis must be present but **not** be separate sections
- ___ Class reading must be referenced as appropriate (at least one paper **must** be used as the basis of one of the arguments).
- ___ There should be a clear cohesiveness to the analysis such that each argument logically flows into the next and gently directs the reader toward your conclusion while implicitly providing answers to any doubts they may have through logic and data.
- ___ Opinions > dev/null.

For your final paper, considering the requirements above, give the grade you expect your paper to earn below.
