

WRITE THE ABSTRACT FOR YOUR RESEARCH PROJECT

FIRST DRAFT

DUE: JUNE 24, 2016 AT 11:59 PM

SUBMISSION ON BLACKBOARD

Turn in your Abstract document to your SURF GA via Blackboard (using the file name structure LastName_FirstName_AbstractDraft). You will also need to have your graduate mentor (and/or faculty advisor) read your abstract *before* you submit the assignment.

INSTRUCTIONS

Task 1: Write the first draft of your Abstract

Your assignment this week is to write the abstract for your research project, which should be targeted for a general technical audience (i.e. avoid and/or define any field-specific terms). Use the instructions provided in the abstract writing seminar/workshop as a guideline. Your abstract should be between about 100 – 250 words. Use the following color coding to specify the different components of your abstract: Motivation (green) – Problem statement (red) – Methods (purple) – Key Results (blue) – Primary Conclusion(s) (black). Also, include at the top of your document (centered), the title of your project (targeted for a general technical audience), and the authors and co-authors of the work.

It is expected at this point in the program that you will not yet have all of your results for your project. Therefore, when writing the “Key Results” and “Primary Conclusions” portions of your abstract, feel free to include the *expected* results (for those results that are not yet known) and state the conclusions drawn from those expected results. A true abstract will not give “expected” results since the study for which the abstract was written will have been completed before hand. Therefore, for this exercise, write your “expected” results as if they are actual results.

IMPORTANT: For the *final draft* of your abstract (due in Week 9), you must **only report the actual results found** from your research work. Stating any “expected” results in your final draft (in a way that makes them seem like actual results) is dishonest and unethical.

Task 2: Mentor Check

Have your graduate mentor and/or faculty advisor read your abstract draft. Briefly state the feedback that your mentors give you on the same document as your abstract draft (include it below your abstract in a section titled “Mentor Check”). You also need to be sure to incorporate any corrections your mentors provide into your abstract draft *before* you submit it on Blackboard.