

CS 305: Term Paper and Presentation

You are to write a term paper and deliver a presentation on a topic of your choice. In addition, you will be required to critique the presentations of your classmates.

The Topic: Pick a topic from three from the homework that is of interest to you. Investigate in depth the legal, ethical or social issue that is being raised. Try to identify all the relevant facts, understand the consequences of those facts, and discuss your views on the issue. Your paper on this topic will be 1400-1700 words, including a reasonably comprehensive bibliography. Your talk will be a 12-minute presentation of the material in your paper.

As an example of what a topic could be, you could pick a topic from chapters 3-8 in the textbook.

We have way more to cover than 6 2-hour lectures will allow. Doing things this way will allow you to cover the remaining topics in a reasonable way.

Preliminary presentation slides: You are to turn in the contents of the three required slides described below by the sixth week of class. They should convey a sense of what your 12-minute talk will be about. Submit your slides to the Dropbox area.

Paper abstract: You are to turn in an abstract of your paper by the sixth week of class as well. This abstract will include:

- Title of paper
- The introduction part of your paper (this should convey a sense of what your paper will be about)
- A sentence or two of your "My Opinion" section so we have an idea of what you are going to be working towards. Submit your abstract to the Dropbox area.

Presentation

Your presentation will be on the topic you have selected. Your talk must meet the following specifications:

- The slides must be submitted to the Dropbox area as a PDF document. No other formats or submission methods are allowed.
- The talk should be 10 to 12 minutes in length.
- The slides must be in presentation form. That is, they may not be a cut-and-paste of your paper abstract. The individual bullet items must be meaningful.

- The slides must include:
 - First slide must include the title, your name, and date.
 - Second slide must include an outline for the rest of the talk, including the main points you are going to cover.
 - Last content slide must be a summary and conclusion.
 - References go on the last slide.
- ***You must submit your final presentation slides in PDF format by 8AM on the day of your presentation. All the slides will be loaded onto the instructor's computer before the presentation – you will not be allowed to connect your own computer to the projector!***

Presentation Critiques

You will be required to complete an evaluation form for each presentation delivered in your presentation sessions.

Paper

Your paper will be on the topic you have selected. The paper must meet the following specifications:

- The paper must be submitted to the Dropbox area as a PDF document. No other formats or submission methods are allowed.
- Formatting: 8.5"x11", 1" margins all around, 11pt font, 1.5 line spacing
- The paper must be 1400-1700 words in length
- The paper should have at least 5 credible references at the end. These citations must be referred to in the paper in a meaningful way.
- The introduction should clearly convey the purpose of the paper and must present an opinion based upon a reasonable analysis of the data that you gathered for the paper.
- Your paper must include a section entitled: **"My Opinion"**. The purpose of this section is for you to draw your conclusion of the topic that you are investigating.

Grading will be based upon:

- Following spec 25%
- Grammar/Spelling 20%
- Clarity 20%
- Analysis 20%
- Instructor discretion 15%

Make sure you take the time to proofread your paper. It is important for a computer scientist to be clear and concise. Remember all of the poor instruction manuals you have read in the past! Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. You can reference existing works and facts, when needed, as long as the citations to it are clearly marked in the paper.