

10-701 F25 Final Project Check In 2
Due: November 7th, 2025 11:59 PM on Gradescope

For the final project check-in 2, we ask that your group submits a PDF file in the following format using the template linked [here](#). Note that since we do not ask for an abstract, that section should be omitted in your check in.

While this check-in will be graded on completion, we **highly recommend that you have all the components listed in this specification document.**

1. Introduction

Your introduction should adequately explain the background to your project such that a machine learning student who is not familiar with your field can quickly understand (1) the topic of the project, (2) the **exact research question** of your project (2) the scope of the project, and (4) where the project exists in the timeline of the field.

Please make your research question as clear as possible.

Some good examples of this are:

- “We will be fine-tuning a language model on synthetic data for product NER to show that synthetic data is viable for this task”
- “We will be generating classical music using a modified Diffusion model based on x paper to show that this technique is also viable in the audio field”

Some bad examples of this are:

- “We will be predicting stocks using machine learning”
- “We will analyze the distribution of molecules with a neural network, and then expand on it.”

2. Related Works

In this section, we expect you to include and critically review **at least 5 relevant papers in the field**. The papers you choose should be organized from oldest to newest, and should have a takeaway on what the paper is about and how it relates to your project. Make sure that this section not only describes classical methods in the field, but also includes what the most modern state of the art methods are today. Thus, we expect that **at least one paper should be from the last two years**. A good place to find papers is in the proceedings of prestigious conferences, e.g. ACL, EMNLP, NeurIPS, ICLR, ICML. If you have further questions about finding literature, please consult your mentor.

3. Proposed Baselines and Methods

In this section, you should clearly outline what you plan to do; at this point, you should have a good idea about what a reasonable baseline is, as well as a vague idea about what your proposed methodology is.

We expect **at least one baseline method and at least one proposed method**. Please be as specific as possible about your methodology; what dataset will you use? What libraries will you use? How will you evaluate the results? Will there be any human/qualitative evaluation?

4. Current Progress

In this section, please describe where you currently are in the project process. Some examples of this are (1) a checklist that describes things that have been done and things that are yet to be done, (2) who in your

team is working on each task, (3) a timeline with specific milestones, or (4) one or two paragraphs describing the current progress. We also ask that you **share the github link to your repository in this section.**