

CECS 327 Term Assignment 2 - Analytical Essay

50 points

Assignment Description. Your assignment is to write an analytical essay about a topic relating to this course: Networks and Distributed Computing. Your paper must be formatted according to the IEEE style guide¹, have at least 3 unique *academic-quality* references, and use the proper citation methods for IEEE stylizing. The minimum page length requirement is 3 stylized pages, with an upper-bound of around 5-6 pages.

The depth of the analytical essay should reflect the complexity of an upper-division university term paper, which is to say that it should emphasize the *analytical* aspect of the writing much more than the *summary* aspect of writing (i.e. depth > breadth). Sample topics include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Clock Synchronization
- Internet Security and the Use of Firewalls
- Advancements in Distributed Computing Introduced with the Plan 9 Operating System
- Distributed Computing Usage in High-Traffic MMO Games
- Database Architecture and Distributed Computing
- Divide and Conquer Algorithms in Peer-to-Peer Architectures
- Real-Time Operating System Usage in Distributed Computing
- Load Balancing Performance on LAN Networks
- Fault-Tolerance Methodologies

Deliverables. Submit your essay on **Beachboard Dropbox** by the indicated due date and time. Please output your paper in PDF format for the final submission. For this assignment, plagiarism checking will be enabled on Beachboard Dropbox and originality scores > 50% will be given no credit for the assignment.

¹https://www.ieee.org/documents/style_manual.pdf