

Here are the guidelines for your final project report. You should turn in one report per team.

1. Your report should have a title, a one-paragraph abstract, titled sections, and bibliographic references. It should be formatted using the [Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence \(AAAI\) author kit \(Links to an external site.\)](#)[Links to an external site.](#), and be no longer than 8 pages including references, figures, and tables. The AAAI author kit provides templates for both LaTeX and Word.
2. Something important to keep in mind, no matter what you are writing, is "who is my intended audience"? It's surprising how often even professional researchers lose track of this. For your project report, pretend that your audience is your fellow students in the class. That is, you should assume that your readers have about the same general background in machine learning that you do, but that they don't know as much about the topic of your project as you do. Therefore, you should describe your algorithms, data sets, etc. accordingly.
3. Your paper should probably have sections along the lines of:
 - *Introduction*: what you attempted to do, and what the motivation is.
 - *Approach*: what you did. If you developed your own approach, you should describe your work in sufficient detail that someone else could replicate your work. If you are using previously developed algorithms, describe them briefly, and provide references to complete descriptions. Don't describe your code organization or implementation details. For the intended audience, you should assume that interested readers could figure out how to implement the code as long as the methods are described in sufficient detail.
 - *Empirical Evaluation*: describe your experiments and results. Describe your data sets in adequate detail. If you selected a subset of a larger data set, how did you make this selection? Describe how you chose settings for parameters of the algorithms? Clearly state what are you trying to test/demonstrate in your experiments. Your experiments should be motivated by one or more explicitly stated hypotheses or questions.
 - *Discussion*: discuss your results. What are the lessons of your experiments? What are the limitations of your approach? What would you suggest for future work in this direction?
4. Every paper should have some figures or tables. All figures and tables should have informative captions. If you include graphs, make sure that the axes are labeled. Figures and tables should be referenced and described in the text, not just dropped into the document.
5. Don't worry if your experiments don't turn out as you predicted. That's how science often goes. Data have a way of frequently humiliating hypotheses. The important thing is how well you carried out the process. That is, you will be graded on such things as (i) clearly defining your objectives/ hypotheses, (ii) selecting appropriate experiments, (iii) clearly reporting relevant results, and (iv) carefully discussing the significance/lessons of your results.