COMP90044 Research Methods Assignment 1: Literature review.

Value: 40 marks, 40% of final grade.

Activities

This assignment is divided into two activities:

- Activity 1: optional early submission of indicative literature review. This will receive written feedback only, not a mark
- Activity 2: submission of final literature review, approximately 2000 words, 40 marks

Activity 1

By the time this assignment is released, you will have chosen your research topic. Whether you chose your own topic or one that was suggested, you should already have 2-3 references. For this activity you should select a further 4 or so references that represent the field you are investigating. You should further write a 300-500 word introduction for your literature review, describing the nature of the problem, and an outline of the structure of the rest of your review.

This should be submitted via TurnItIn on the LMS by the due date listed in the subject schedule. You will receive feedback on:

- Writing (comprehensibility, spelling, grammar)
- Choice of references
- Use of references within the introduction (these should be used to support your problem description)
- The proposed structure of your report

Activity 2

Write a final literature review of not less than 1900 words and not more than 2100 words, not including the bibliography. The review should include 8-10 recent, peer-reviewed references on your chosen topic, in addition to 3-5 foundational publications on which the work in the area is built.

Your literature review should present a clear problem statement, and discuss the contributions of each of your references to the area of research. This analysis should focus on the relevance of each reference to the problem you are discussing, rather than focusing on the outcomes as described by the original authors. Publications should be compared to and contrasted with each other where appropriate, and their strengths and shortcomings should be identified.

Your report should be presented in a professional style, appropriate for a journal or a conference, and be easily read by someone non-expert in your field. Please use a one column format. The references should be in a standard bibliography format. All submissions must adhere to the University of Melbourne academic integrity policy https://academicintegrity.unimelb.edu.au/.

Assessment Criteria: Key elements of a strong report include contrasts between papers, comparisons of the work to the state of knowledge in the field as a whole, clearly argued criticisms, and clear writing.