CIS 115 - Introduction to Computing Science

Fall 2015

Topic Research

Team Assignment

Due: 10:00 p.m. Friday, October 2nd, 2015.

Grade: 10% of total grade. Your individual grade may be adjusted up to 50% based on evaluation of your effort by other group members.

Assignment: Each team will be given a topic to research. The team will locate and organize materials, including information from the class texts, to present to the class in preparation for writing a textbook section. The materials should include both online and offline resources, and should include a **minimum of 5 resources per team member**. Each team will present their materials in class. The presentations should be around **9 - 12 minutes** in length. The focus of the presentation should not only cover information about the topic, but also information about interesting resources found during the research.

Resources: Here are some good resources to help improve your project:
- The course textbooks (see the Syllabus).
- Other K-State faculty and staff (https://www.cis.ksu.edu/people)
- K-State Libraries (http://www.lib.k-state.edu/)
  - ACM Library (http://apps.lib.k-state.edu/databases/category/engineering/)
  - IEEE Xplore (http://apps.lib.k-state.edu/databases/category/engineering/)
  - Ask a Librarian (http://apps.lib.k-state.edu/ask/)
- CIS Library (233 Nichols)
- Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com/)
- Google Search Operators (http://support.google.com/websearch/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=136861)
- IEEE Citation Format (http://www.ieee.org/documents/ieeecitationref.pdf)
- Bibme Bibliography Creator (http://www.bibme.org/)

Assignment Details

1. Research the Topic

Each team should spend ample time researching the topic to discover what it is and how it fits in with Computing Science as a whole. Look for things that give in-depth information about the topic, and not just a cursory overview. The goal is for each team to gain a deep understanding of the topic so that they may help the rest of the class better understand and relate to the topic. There are many good resources both online and offline that can be located for each topic, and I encourage you to find some items from each area. The Resources section above gives some good starting points for your research.

Each team should have a **minimum** of 5 resources per team member. Therefore, a team of 3 members should submit **at least** 15 different sources. In addition, no more than **20%** of the total resources submitted should be taken from user-maintained reference sites such as Wikipedia.

You will be creating a bibliography of your resources to be used in your textbook section, so make sure you keep track of all the pertinent information. Sites such as Bibme (http://www.bibme.org/) are very useful for this.

2. Create your Presentation

Once you have gathered your materials, you will create a presentation to present the materials to your classmates. The presentation should cover both the the basic information regarding the topic as well as a discussion of the resources found during your research. At the end of the presentation, your classmates should have a basic understanding of the topic as well as ideas for resources they may be able to use in their textbook section.

You presentation should be about **9 - 12 minutes** in length, and each team member is expected to play a part in the presentation in some way. You are welcome to use any presentation software to create your slides, and you will also be able to show online resources such as videos or web pages. I recommend looking at Prezi (http://prezi.com/) or Impress.js (http://bartaz.github.io/impress.js/) if you would like to create a truly dynamic presentation.

3. Submit your Materials

Once you have located and organized your materials, submit them to the instructor by **10:00 p.m. Friday, October 2nd, 2015**. **You should submit a copy of your presentation or a URL that it can be accessed at, as well as your bibliography. Make sure your bibliography includes valid URLs** for all online resources used.

4. Present and Discuss your Findings in Class

During the designated class periods, you will give your presentation to the class. As stated above, your goal is to help your classmates understand a bit about your topic as well as share information about how you did your research and what resources you found. Remember that each team member must play a part in the presentation in some way.

Your classmates may have questions for you at the end of your presentation, so be prepared to answer them.