Term Paper Assignment

Write a Survey Paper

CS 3398.251 and CS 3398.252, Spring 2012
Instructor: Jill Seaman

Due: 2/28/2012 (submission details will be announced later)

Assignment: Write a survey paper about a topic in Software Engineering.

Purpose of the Paper: To provide the reader with a view of existing work that is well organized and comprehensive. The paper should explain the main topic or problem and why it is important. It should summarize the various existing approaches, methods, solutions, and/or practices. It should compare and evaluate these approaches and also describe future directions or possible improvements.

Requirements:
• 10-12 pages text (not including Title page or References), double-spaced.
• Font: Times New Roman, 12 point.
• A minimum of 6 sources, at least 2 from scholarly publications or technical journals. You may find articles in books, journals from the library, on-line, or other sources.

Format: Your paper should be structured as follows:
• Title page
• Abstract (a summary of the paper, write this last)
• Intro (explain the problem or topic and its importance, give background)
• Body
  - Present/explain the various approaches
  - Compare the various approaches, possible improvements, future directions
• Conclusion (summarize your conclusions)
• References (see below for formatting)

REMINDER:
• The writing in this survey paper should be in your own words.
• All ideas, paraphrases of other people's words must be correctly attributed in the body of the paper, citing the references.

Criteria:
• Scope, thoroughness (is it complete? too broad? too narrow? current?)
• Logic of the presentation (organization and theme)
• Quality of explanations
• Critical evaluation of approaches (comparison, advantages/disadvantages)
• Evidence of adequate research
• Grammar and clarity, formatting.
Reference Format

Note: Authors must reference the original source of a work, not a secondary source

When you cite material from your sources, you should explicitly mention them in your paper with a [n] mark. n means the nth paper in the reference list you put at the end of the paper.

Chapter in a Book:

Journal Article:

or (if published only electronically and not yet available in a particular journal issue):


Proceedings/Transactions Articles:


Company Report:

NASA Report:
Meeting Paper:


AIAA Book Series:

Electronic Media:


Anonymous Report: