

**ECPE 6504 - Advanced Topics in Computer Engineering: Network QoS
Spring 2001 - L. DaSilva**

Final Project

Guidelines

The objective of this project is to present the class with a current, accurate view of the state-of-the-art in advanced topics in Network QoS. This will be done through an oral presentation AND a written technical report.

All material covered during these presentations are considered part of the course contents and are 'fair game' for the final exam.

The final grade for the project will consist of both the presentation grade (50%) and the report grade (50%).

Presentation

Group presentations will be conducted during scheduled lecture periods. All students are required to give a presentation.

Grades for the presentation will consist of an individual grade (70%) plus a group grade (30%). Grading will be based on:

- Usefulness of the presentation in providing an accurate, current, understandable view of the topic
- Adherence to time limits
- Quality of audio-visual materials
- Handling of questions from the audience
- Quality of review problems

A single set of slides should be used for the entire group. Slides with any audio-visual material should be sent to the instructor at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled date of the presentation.

Microsoft Powerpoint™ is the preferred software for generating the slides. If you use any other product, you must provide the instructor with pdf of the slides. Whatever you provide (Powerpoint or pdf) is what you will be presenting from, since these will be pre-loaded in the PCs in the classrooms at the NVC, Blacksburg and ARI.

The maximum length of the presentation is $n * 8$ minutes, where n is the number of persons in the group (example: a group of 3 will have 24 minutes to present). You will lose points for going over the time limit. If a group member does not participate in the presentation, (s)he will receive a grade of 0 for the presentation portion of the project.

The last slide in the presentation must contain 3 to 5 review questions (WITHOUT answers) regarding the main points covered in the presentation. The answers should be sent separately as an email to the instructor (but NOT to the listserv).

Report

Each group should submit one technical report. Grades for the technical report will consist of an individual grade (70%) plus a group grade (30%). Grading will be based on:

- Usefulness of the report in providing an accurate, current, understandable view of the topic
- Format, spelling, absence of typos, good grammar, etc.

If an individual group member does not contribute to the report, (s)he will receive a grade of 0 for the report portion of the project. If a group member's contribution to the report contains unreferenced or plagiarized material, (s)he will receive a grade of 0 for the report portion of the project.

From the Virginia Tech 1999-2001 Graduate Policies and Procedures and Course Catalog:

“Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating, and is defined as the copying of language, structure, idea, and/or thoughts of another and claiming or attempting to imply that it is one's original work. It also includes the omitting of quotation marks when references are copied directly, paraphrasing, or inadequate referencing of sources.”

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If you have any questions about this, please contact the instructor prior to submitting your work.

You are not allowed to use materials submitted to other classes for this final project, even if they are of your own authorship.

Maximum length of the report is $\max(3, n*2)$ pages. In case the report exceeds the allowable maximum by k pages, all group members will have their report grades deducted by $10*k$ %.

The structure of the report will be:

Abstract
Introduction
Title of Section 1 [Author Name]
Title of Section 2 [Author Name]
...
Title of Section n [Author Name]
Concluding Remarks
References

Sections 1 through n will be the responsibility of individual group members. Each group member will individually author his/her section; everything in it must be of this individual's authorship, unless explicitly indicated by quotation marks AND appropriately referenced. All other sections are responsibility of the entire group. All references should be consolidated (*i.e.* a single References section shall contain references for all other sections).

The following pages contain a set of formatting guidelines.

General Formatting Guidelines for the Final Project

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Abstract

Short (up to 300 words) summary of the report, containing a brief review of the major motivation for the study, objectives, procedures and results.

1. Formatting Instructions

You may use single-column or double-column format.

Use 12 pt font (or larger) for the title and authors' names, 10 pt (or larger) for the body of the document.

In formatting your page, set top and bottom margins to 25 mm (1 in) and left and right margins to 18 mm (0.7 in). If using double-column format, the column width is 88 mm (3.45 in), and the space between columns is 5 mm (0.2 in)¹.

Preferably, left- and right-justify your columns. Use automatic hyphenation and check spelling.

2. Common Grammar Mistakes

Carefully proofread your report to avoid misspellings and grammatical errors. The following is a non-comprehensive list of common mistakes.

The word "data" is plural, not singular. In American English, periods and commas are within quotation marks, like "this example." A parenthetical statement at the end of a sentence is punctuated outside of the closing parenthesis (like this). (A parenthetical *sentence* is punctuated within the parenthesis.) Be aware of the difference between the homophones "affect" and "effect," "complement" and "compliment," "discreet" and "discrete," "principal" and "principle." There is no period after the "et" in the Latin abbreviation "et al." The abbreviation "i.e." means "that is," and the abbreviation "e.g."

¹ The guidelines in this paragraph represent the minimum size of margins and space between columns.

means "for example." Avoid contractions: use "it is" instead of "it's," "I am" instead of "I'm," etc.

Learn the difference between:

- "Its," "it is," and "it's;"
- "Their," "there," and "they're;"
- "Your" and "you're."

3. Proper Use of References

Number citations in square brackets; if footnotes are used, number them separately using superscripts. Give authors' names; do not use "et al." unless there are six authors or more.

Follow the reference styles and recommendations in [1].

4. Miscellaneous

Define abbreviations and acronyms the first time they are used in the text, even after they have been defined in the abstract. Do not use abbreviations in the title unless they are unavoidable. Choose a short but meaningful title.

Acknowledgement

This document closely follows the instructions for the preparation of camera-ready papers for MILCOM 1999.

References

[1] IEEE Computer Society Style Guide. Available at <http://computer.org/author/style/cs-style.htm>.