

# Final Report Guidelines

**Due: 2:00 PM May 1.**

Each *group* will turn in one term project report that should be:

- Not less than 2 and not more than 10 pages long, including figures and tables, in the IEEE 11 point, 2 column format. Not less than 4 and not more than 20 pages in single column double space.
- Well organized and without spelling, grammatical, or syntactic errors, and written in a good tech-report style
- With as much introductory material as necessary to allow understanding of the rest of the report (keep the introduction and background to no more than, say 2 pages)
- With as many linkages to the material covered in class and the main thrusts of the course as reasonable

If code that you have written represents a substantial effort of the project for which you wish to receive credit, refer to a URL in your report from which I can download the source for consideration in your grade.

If you have a really hard time squeezing the material you have into 10 pages, please remember that it is better to cover well only part of it (referring to the rest in the text, or putting it in an appendix, or simply omitting it) than all of it in too compact, confusing, or superficial a way.

Your report's grade will be based on:

- Technical correctness of content
- Understanding of subject matter conveyed
- References cited (at least 5) and understanding of references conveyed
- Depth and scope of study
- Originality and/or synthesis of different sources
- Quality of presentation, including format and style
- Grammar and spelling

As discussed in class, the key to scoring high marks in categories such as understanding, depth, or originality is to demonstrate that you have synthesized the material and problem, and gone well beyond a summary of the referenced papers and repetition of their results. You must articulate what it is you discovered. Phrases such as "our contribution is...", "we find that, unlike [3], ...", "our key technique is to study the problem experimentally from the perspective of...", "using this methodology, we show..." should be prevalent in the introduction. Emphasis should be placed on the explanations of your experimental results, the *why's* behind your data, with relationships back to the theory, its assumptions, your performance measures, and your

experimental methodology.