COMPSCI 289
Assignment 1: Individual Seminar

Worth 30% of your final grade
This assignment is due by 5:00pm on Sunday 23 August 2020
This is an individual assignment

Aims
The aim of this assignment is to give you experience in reading, understanding, communicating and questioning Computer Science research in a specific area.

Objectives
- Study a Computer Science topic in depth
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of advances in a particular area of Computer Science
- Give an oral presentation on a technical subject
- Write a summary of a technical subject
- Participate in discussions of Computer Science topics

Background
This is an opportunity to gain a deep understanding of what research is being undertaken in an area of Computer Science which interests you. You will read and present on an important and topical research paper from a set which has been identified from the major research areas undertaken in the school. While you will present the research from a single paper you will likely find it useful to read a few other papers in the area to gain a fuller understanding of the research context within which your paper is situated. You will also have support from the lecturers and tutors to understand advanced techniques and research concepts that may be presented in the paper.

Once you have read and understood the research paper you will prepare a presentation for the class, to inform them of the research which is present in the paper. Along with the presentation you will prepare a 1-page handout which summarises the research presented in the paper. In each presentation session there is a question and answer session where the class will ask questions about the research and its implications. You will also be expected to ask questions about papers which are presented to you by your classmates.

Deadlines

Date	Deadline
5:00pm, Tuesday 28 July 2020	Choice of research papers
9:00am, Thursday 30 July 2020	Research paper selection agreed by lecturers and duplicates renegotiated
5:00pm, Sunday 23 August 2020	Presentation and handout submitted

General information for seminar presentations
- Presentation time: 20 minutes
- Question & answer: 30 minutes
- Number of slides: 20 (maximum) – an exception would be when there are many photographs and other easily explained material. Slides containing the reference list are in addition to this number
- Number of rehearsals recommended: 2 (at least) – this is important for clarity and for timing

- Available presentation slots:

Date	Slot 1	Slot 2
24 August	9:05am	10:05am
25 August	10:05am	
31 August	9:05am	10:05am
1 September	10:05am	
21 September	9:05am	10:05am
22 September	10:05am	
12 October	9:05am	10:05am
13 October	10:05am	
19 October	9:05am	10:05am
20 October	10:05am	
27 October	10:05am	

Slide format
- Font: Sans-serif font (e.g. Arial)
- Minimum font size is 24, except that references can be 18
- Suggest white background
- Text in color should be bold
- Do not show detail that is not discussed
- Avoid excessive slide automation (distracting)
- Reference format: IEEE specification, see:
  https://ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/wp-content/uploads/IEEE-Reference-Guide.pdf

Guidelines for the content of your presentation
The content of your presentation includes four main parts, which should be understandable by the course cohort (your classmates). You should aim to answer the following questions:
Introduction
- What is your topic?
- Where does it fit in the Computer Science discipline?
- What drives the development of the topic (or what are industry's needs), what is its background?
- What distinguishes the topic from associated topics?

Review and discussion of your paper
- Which objective is addressed by the research presented in the paper?
- What have researchers previously done towards this goal?
- Describe the research presented in the paper
- Discuss pros and cons of this work
- What future steps have to be taken to fully meet the original objective?

Conclusions
- Summarize major conclusions of the papers and your analysis. Do not provide a summary of the presentation

References
- Not to be presented, but include at the end of the *.pptx file

- List references numbered in the order they are referenced in the presentation, use the IEEE format for your references slide(s)

Guidelines for the content of your handout
This is a 1-page handout for the class which includes three main sections:
Summary of the research paper
- Ensure it is understandable for the whole class

Key points of the research paper
- Three key points presented as bullet points with 2-3 sentences describing each point

Questions
- Provide 3 questions to seed the discussion after your presentation

Notes
We expect this assignment to be presented to a high standard. You must use consistent formatting, good grammar and spelling, and a professional written style.

Submit
An electronic copy of your presentation as a PPTX (or PDF) file and a PDF of your 1-page handout to Canvas by 5:00pm on Sunday 23 August. Please name your presentation and handout using your UPI (e.g., ramo001-presentation.ppt and ramo001-handout.pdf).

Questions
Direct questions about this assignment to the class Piazza discussion for Assignment 1 (accessible via Canvas).

Assignment 1 Rubric
Criteria
- Comprehension: Understood the concepts in the research paper and where it sits in computer science
- Analysis: Identified the pros and cons of the research work and what future work is required
- Presentation approach: Well delivered presentation providing insight into the research paper
- Overall quality: Clarity of presentation slides and written handout