

CS 495 - Senior Project Phase I

Spring 2017 - Project Proposal

One of the requirements for this class is to submit a written design proposal for your senior project. In it, you must provide a problem statement and any background necessary to understand the problem, identify the requirements of the project, develop the specifications for the project as a whole, and complete the preliminary design. The report should be developed in conjunction with your project sponsor and project advisor.

Your project proposal should be concerned with giving clear, explicit answers to questions that a prospective client has in mind when she considers the possibility of negotiating a contract with you and/or your firm.

- What is your understanding of the problem?
- What solutions or approaches to solutions do you offer?
- How do you intend to go about implementing your solution(s)?
- What is your planned activity schedule?
- What will you deliver at the end of the project?
- Why do you think you are qualified to do this job?
- What will it cost?

See the [*Common Report Format*](#) handout for an illustrative outline and formatting requirements. There is no hard page limit for this report, but it is highly unlikely that a satisfactory report could be presented in fewer than 15-20 double-spaced pages.

The proposal is due in stages. Comments from the previous stages are expected to be incorporated in later stages. The due dates are as follows:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
Problem Statement and Background	Thursday, February 2, 2017
Add Project Requirements and Specifications	Thursday, March 16, 2017
Complete Proposal Draft	Thursday, April 13, 2017
Final Proposal Draft	Wednesday, April 26, 2017 (Reading/Study Day)

Please note that a complete proposal draft does not mean a "rough copy" of what you plan to write. The draft should be completed to the best of your ability and be void of typos and errors.

The following rubric will be used to grade the final proposal draft.

CS 495 Design Project Report Rubric

	5	3	1	0	Score
Paragraph Structure	All paragraphs are well-organized.	Paragraphs are mostly well-organized	Few paragraphs are well organized	The majority of paragraphs lack organization	
Sentence Mechanics (spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, word choice)	There are no more than 2 errors.	There are 3-4 errors.	There are 5-6 errors.	There are 7 or more errors	
Graphics (figures, tables, flow charts, screenshots)	All graphics are professional and supported in the text.	Graphics are professional but not supported in the text.	Graphics are poor quality but supported in the text.	Graphics are poor quality and not supported in the text.	
Formatting	The document appears professional	The document is mostly formatted.	The document is partially formatted	The document is poorly formatted	
References	There are no errors in the references and the document is cited appropriately	There are 1-2 errors in the references or the document is missing 1-2 citations.	There are 3-4 errors in the references or the document is missing 3-4 citations.	There are 5 or more errors in the references or the document is missing 5 or more citations	
Project overview	Document provides a thorough overview.	Document provides a general overview.	Document provides an overview of the project, but it is unclear.	Document fails to provide an overview.	
Audience	Appropriate. Uncommon terms are defined.	Somewhat appropriate. The majority of uncommon terms are defined.	Inappropriate. Some uncommon terms are defined.	Inappropriate. Uncommon terms are not defined.	
Project specifications	Clearly defines the scope and behavior of the project.	Somewhat defines the scope of the project, but some details are unclear.	Somewhat defines the scope of the project, but many details are unclear	Fails to define the scope and behavior of the project.	
Design of the project	An appropriate design is described clearly	An appropriate design is described, but details are not clear	A design is described, but it is not clear whether it is appropriate	A design is not described.	
Design evaluation	Shows that project meets all of the specifications	Shows that project meets many of the specifications.	Shows that project meets some of the specifications.	Fails to show that project meets any of the specifications.	