

**CMSI/ELEC 601 GRADUATE SEMINAR**  
**Reference Presentations**

The purpose of this exercise is to practice the art of analyzing and presenting references.

Step 1. Identify and read two papers related to your project.

Step 2. Find two additional papers related to each of the papers identified in step 1. The related papers would ideally include papers published before and after the initial paper.

- The *References* section in each paper will list papers referenced by the papers you are reading, that is, papers published *before* the paper in hand.
- IEEExplore, ACM Digital Library, and Google Scholar are three places where you can check which papers *reference* your selected papers, that is, which papers were published *after* the paper in hand.
- The website of each author of the papers identified in Step 1 are another source of information. Visit them to check whether the authors have referenced their own (or each others' works) in papers each wrote subsequent to the papers selected in step 1.

Step 3. Seek out additional information related to some topic that was (a) mentioned in the paper and (b) is new to you.

Step 4. Write a brief analysis of what you've read and learned. The analysis should include:

- The full citation for each paper selected in step 1
- A brief summary of each paper selected in step 1
- A short list of topics that are touched upon by the paper
- The specific contribution that the paper claims to make to the field
- A list of related questions, tasks, issues, or problems that are not covered by the work reported in the paper
- A brief overview of the "new" topic related to the readings and which you researched
- The full citations of the related papers identified in step 2
- The relationship of all of the papers to one another

Step 5. Turn in your written analysis.

Step 6. Prepare a short presentation to share your findings with the class

- Compose one five-minute presentation for each paper in step 1 which includes
  - full citation
  - specific contribution the paper claims to make
  - *brief* synopsis of paper content (*not* the published abstract)
  - most important point *not* covered in the paper
  - relationship of this paper to your project (and the other papers)
- Assume that presentations will be made round-robin -- each student will present one reference before any student present their second reference.
- Number your slides.

Five minutes is 1 or 2 slides by our 3 to 5 minutes per slide metric.

Step 7. Turn in one paper copy of your slides (four slides per page, landscape orientation, pages stapled) at the start of class.

Remember, your work will be evaluated based upon both *content* and *presentation*.