

# 1 Class Paper and Presentation

You are to produce a paper and a presentation comparing and contrasting two programming languages. You can choose two programming languages that are closely related to each other, such as C and C++, or you can choose two diverse programming languages, such as Forth and Haskell. Please see the list of languages on the web page for this assignment. The list is not exclusive – you are welcome to do another programming language if you like, but please review your choice with your TA if you do decide to do one not on the list.

For reference material, you will need to find resources for your presentation, such as textbooks, web sources, and technical papers. You must document all of the places where you use others' words and ideas with clear citations.

Your paper should be produced with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X; please do not use Word or other WYSIWYG system.

The MLA Handbook is a great resource for writing papers; it also now devotes an entire chapter to the subject of plagiarism and academic honesty, if you need guidance. However, you do not have to use the MLA format; please use L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X's default style for your paper and its references.

# 2 Paper Evaluation

The paper should be written using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, and have the following characteristics:

1. A title page (with title, author, and date).
2. A short abstract that summarizes the paper in one paragraph.
3. An introduction that briefly gives the history of the two programming languages.
4. A section giving the advantages of each language.
5. A section giving the similarities of the two languages.
6. A section explaining the differences in the two languages
7. A conclusion, giving your thoughts on each programming language.
8. A bibliography with references to papers and web sites you consulted.

The rubric for the paper will be on a 100 point scale:

1. Structural: title, introduction, conclusions, and layout of sections. (20 points)
2. Completeness of references in bibliography. (20 points)
3. Depth and thoroughness of your research. (20 points)
4. Accuracy of your observations. (20 points)

5. Clarity of writing and use of correct grammar. (20 points)

The entire paper should be at least six pages of text, though of course you are welcome to write more. You should have at least five references.

The paper will be submitted via Blackboard to TurnItIn, and is due by 11:59pm on Monday, October 30.

### **3 Presentation Evaluation**

The evaluation of the quality of the presentation (as well as the paper) will take into account the originality, relevance, and currency of information that you present, as well as the clarity of the presentation. The presentation will be scored using the following rubric:

Grading criteria for oral presentations (100 pts possible):

1. Quality and content of personal introduction (0 to 10).
2. Student is within the prescribed time limits of 12 to 15 minutes (0 or 10).
3. Student speaks audibly and clearly (0 to 10).
4. Student's visual aid is appropriately used and enhances the presentation (0 to 10).
5. Student presentation is well organized (0 to 20).
6. Student addresses all issues mentioned in the topic description (0 to 20).
7. Student explains the material well, going appropriately in depth given time constraints (0 to 20).

Presentations will be given during the recitation sections in November and December.