CS373 Writing Evaluation Form

Your assignment is graded on a five point scale for each of the following ten writing rules. An additional 50 points is graded for overall paper quality.

Rule #1: Assume your reader is *intelligent* but *ignorant*.

- Did you write abstract, introduction and related-works sections?
- Did you write a paper for experts only?

Rule #2:

- 1. Tell them what you will say.
- 2. Say it.
- 3. Tell them what you said, and more. Use the conclusion to make your final clear points, synthesizing content.

Rule #3: Define all terms and acronyms.

- Use the format This is a New Acronym (TNM).
- Provide a description of new terms when you first use them.

Rule #4: When possible, use plain language and avoid jargon.

- Avoid informal language, contractions, slang and imprecise terms.
- Use concise sentences.
- Remember our motto: Use enough words, no more.

Rule #5: Make consistent use of terms and notation.

- Read through your document to make sure you are defining and consistently using terms.

Rule #6: Use pictures, charts and graphs, but keep in mind #4.

- A picture is worth a thousand words, or more. Use them.
- Provide a descriptive caption that explains the figure or table.

Rule #7: Use examples to explain complex ideas.

- Any complex topic can benefit from providing a concrete example.
- But make sure the example is truly relevant.

Rule #8: Use:

- Headings (Chapter, Section, etc.).
- Bulleted Lists.
- Numbered lists.

to provide structure, clarity and conciseness to your document.

- LaTeX provides excellent support for these document elements.

Rule #9: Provide guidance:

- Table of Contents.
- List of Figures.
- List of Tables.
- Index and Glossary.
- LaTeX provides these elements as well!

Rule #10: Search the literature and cite other works.

- You should have at least 10 high-quality references that you have assimilated.