

## Final paper rubric

Name(s):

Item	Score	Weight	Grade
Overall: The paper motivates the topic and develops a main idea. It is focused and does not contain confusing details or exposition.	0 1 2 3 4 5	3	
Proofs: are correct, easy to follow, and contain an appropriate amount of detail.	0 1 2 3 4 5	3	
Examples: each main definition and theorem is followed by a nontrivial example.	0 1 2 3 4 5	3	
Organization: the paper is organized in a logical order	0 1 2 3 4 5	1	
Presentation: the paper is grammatically correct (to the best of your ability) and written in complete sentences.	0 1 2 3 4 5	1	
Rigor: all definitions and theorems are stated clearly and correctly; the document is self-contained relative to the contents of the course	0 1 2 3 4 5	2	
Originality: the paper is written from your own understanding of the subject and is not a rewording of an existing source. Examples are your own.	0 1 2 3 4 5	3	

Formatting rules: 12pt font, 1 inch margins, single-spaced. If the paper is too short (< 3 full pages) or too long (> 5 full pages) or there is a bad faith effort to artificially increase length (e.g., excessive whitespace, larger than 12pt font, etc.), we apply a penalty of  $-40\%$ .

Total score:        / 80

Key for score:

- (0) Completely missing
- (1) Weak: Needs heavy revisions
- (2) Developing: Need for revisions outweigh strengths
- (3) Middle: Strengths and needs for revisions are roughly equal
- (4) Competent: well-done but some revisions are necessary
- (5) Strong: demonstrates mastery and little to no revision needed

Tips:

- Most importantly: this paper must be written in your own words. Copying or lightly modifying an existing document will be treated as plagiarism and forwarded to the academic integrity office.
- In general, the course notes can be used as a model for your paper: sections are generally about 2 pages in length and roughly the amount of content expected of

your paper, *but* my notes lack an introduction and motivation, so that makes up the difference.

- Technical writing is very different from non-technical writing (which you are likely more accustomed to). I don't expect perfection, but I do expect a good faith effort on your part to write a clear exposition. Ambiguity is a huge negative. Some general advice can be found in Kleiman's article linked on the project info page.