

CS 463, FALL 2003

Writing Assignment 2

Due Date: Writing Assignment #2 is due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 25.
Submit by email to dabrum@csupomona.edu or in hard-copy form to 98/T7-17.

Choose an article from a refereed computer science journal. The article should center on an ethical or social issue in computer science, and you should choose a topic that interests you. You'll find a large number of articles to choose from if you search the ACM Digital Library. Try to choose a recent article (published no more than 5 years ago). Note that you may choose a less recent article, but will need to answer an additional question (question 7).

Questions:

1. Put your name and the full citation for your article at the top of the first page of your paper.
2. Describe the topic of the article in 1-3 sentences.
3. What does the author want us to know or to believe about this topic?
4. Does the author want us, or others, to do anything about this topic?
5. What arguments or examples does the author use to support his/her point of view?
6. Does the author make any hidden assumptions? Explain.
7. What is your view on this subject?
 - a. Do you believe that the author discusses legitimate ethical or social issues? Explain.
 - b. Was your view influenced by the article? If so, explain.
 - c. Do you have any previous experience with this topic that influences your view?
8. If your article was published more than 5 years ago (that is, prior to November 1998), explain why its content remains relevant to us today, and why you chose this particular article rather than a more recent one.

Answer each question with an essay consisting of complete sentences. Only answer question 7 if it applies. For questions 2 and 6 you should write at least two paragraphs. Do not quote from the article. Rephrase ideas from the article in your own words.

Your paper will be graded for grammar (20%), spelling (10%), thoroughness (40%), and insight (30%).

Late papers will not be accepted after 5:00 on Monday, December 1, and late papers will be penalized 10%.