Project Guidelines

Please read the following carefully. Not fulfilling of the requirements described below will result in a grading penalty of the report.

Reference Requirements

In addition to the project report, every student must perform the following two tasks:

- A literature search in the INSPEC database,
- Obtaining of (at least) one journal or conference article relevant to the project.

The purpose of this requirement is twofold: First, every student should be exposed to the use of an extensive on-line data base. Second, the relevance of each project relatively to work done by others should be shown which usually improves the quality of the report. Also, one should get a feeling for the research that is being done in the area of one's project. Both aspects are extremely important when doing research, but also for design projects etc. in industry. For the project report, please attach as appendix:

1. **The result of your literature search, consisting of authors, journals, and the abstracts.** You don't have to provide the actual articles. Limit your result to a maximum of 10 articles. Grading is *not* based on the number of articles found. If you can only identify one or two articles relevant to your project, then this is as good as 10 relevant articles for another project.
2. **A copy of one article which is relevant to your project.** You must incorporate the article that you provide in your report. If you have a project that is essentially independent of the article, e.g. a software implementation, you should try to compare your results/findings with the article. A good location would be towards the end of your report.

Getting Articles

WPI's Gordon library has almost all CRYPTO, EUROCRYPT, ASIACRYPT, and AUSTCRYPT proceedings, and *all* IEEE publications, including IEEE conferences and journals. If you need an article from another conference or journal that is not available in the library, you can order it through the interlibrary loan system. For that, one must fill a simple form which is available in the library. If the article is not too exotic (such as "2nd Bulgaria Symposium on Computer Security, 1974") one gets them typically within a couple of weeks. Although there can be a charge, most articles are delivered for free. You will be notified by email when the article arrives.

Project Report

Here are some hints for the project report. Always remember that a good project must go along with a good report! Here is an example structure for the report that you should follow:

Title Page Should contain project title, your name, class number (EE578 and/or CS578) and date.

Abstract This should be a one-paragraph summary of the work. In particular, it should be made clear what exactly was done as part of the project.

Introduction Every report should contain an introduction in which (a) the relevance of the project topic is stated, that is, motivate your work(!), and (b) it should be **clearly stated what exactly was done**. The latter is in particular important for implementational projects.

Main Sections Use a structure approach with sections and subsections.

References In the reference list, provide all pieces of literature which you used for the report, including books, articles, etc. Use a bibliography style from a journal or book that you used. Number the references using brackets, such as [1].

Citation in the text If you use material from references (which will mostly be the case), always refer to the source of information used. Provide either the appropriate number from the reference list, such as [3] or [1,2,9], or mention something like "the material in this section was taken from [4] and [7]".

Literature Search Append the result of your literature search (max. 10 references) and a hard copy of the most relevant article. Make sure you address the contents of this article in the report.

Typesetting A suggestion: For reports which contain many mathematical expressions and formulas, using LaTeX is a good idea. LaTeX is available on all campus UNIX machines. (This is not meant as a requirement.)

How to Use INSPEC

The following is only meant to be a brief introduction, but it should be sufficient to get you started. **Note that you have to do the search from a WPI computer.** INSPEC is not accessible otherwise.

- Go to WPI's library web site `http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Library/`
- Choose *Databases & Indexes*
- Choose *INSPEC* under the "Subject-Oriented Databases" heading. Before you click, make sure you read the short comment on how to use INSPEC.
- Follow the instructions.