

UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE - *Asian Division*

Research Paper and Presentation

Objective:

This project is a group project with up to three participants per group. The project will require research into some topic related to computer hardware or operating systems. This paper will be presented in three ways: In paper hardcopy form, in HTML form on disk, and as a 30-minute class presentation. You must bring a hardcopy of the report to class on Monday of the 8th week. You must bring an HTML version of the report on a diskette by Monday of the 8th week. You will do a class presentation of the topic to the class on Monday of the 8th week.

Requirements:

The class will be divided into groups of three to four students in each group. Each group will research a topic of interest related to computer hardware, software, or operating systems. This topic will be presented as a project report and presented in class. You should create the project as an MS Word document. Print out the final document. Also export the document as an HTML. This will result in HTML files and image files for each figure. All files combined should be no larger than 1 Mbyte. If necessary zip all files into one zip file using an application such as WinZip. Bring the report and diskette to class. I will incorporate the information into the course web site.

After researching the topic, organize the information into a project report. The first page will be the cover sheet, which will include the topic title, your name, class, and date. The report should be divided into several major headings and possibly subheadings in a technical report format. The introduction should clearly state the topic, your reasons for selecting it, issues addressed, the scope of the report, and limitations. The body of the report should present all supporting information, your analysis, and explanation.

In your report include five "Did you know?" summary multiple choice questions with five possible answers. These questions may be used on the final exam to help generate interest in the topics.

You may use any available resources including books, periodicals, and the Internet to research information about your topic. Give credit to sources of information and quotations using the Key Number System and a bibliography. For WWW references use a format you like described at the following URL <http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/online/citex.html>.

Possible Topics

1. Personal Computing CPU's: Intel, Motorola, AMD (Compare and contrast)
2. PDA OS and processors
3. WAP and WML
4. Workstation Systems: Sun, MIPS, HP, DEC, SGI
5. Microcontrollers and Digital Signal Processors
6. Operating Systems: MacOS, Windows XP, Linux
7. Anything else you can come up with as related to the class.

Group Presentations

The presentations will occur the first class of the 8th week. Each group presentation should be organized, concise, and 30 minutes in length. I will have to cut you off after 40 minutes. If you use PowerPoint slides for your presentation bring them on a 3.5" diskette.