

Department of Computer Science, University of Houston  
COSC 6352 - Term Paper Guidelines  
Fall 2008, Due Fri. Nov. 21, 2008 at 5pm

All work **must** be your own. No discussion with anyone (except the TA and instructor) is allowed on the term paper.

The task is to:

1. Survey the literature on Programming Languages in the last decade (1997-2007).
2. Identify a programming language problem or issue that is directly related to this course and was discussed in this period.
3. Write a one page outline due October 21, 2007 (11.30am) of your term paper. You will need to discuss the topic and outline with me during office hours by Oct. 16.
4. Write a term paper describing the problem or issue, its relevance to the course, its general significance, its solution or current status, and any remaining open problems that are related to the problem or issue.

If the problem or issue is not deemed satisfactory for any reason in Step 3 above, you will have until October 24 to come up with a satisfactory alternative. Hence you are strongly encouraged to choose the problem carefully and to hand-in and discuss your outline well before the deadline.

**Formatting.** The term paper must be typed on no more than eight letter-size pages. Use: only one side of each sheet, single spacing and 1 inch margin on all sides with no less than 10 point font. You may attach an appendix of up to two additional pages if you wish, but the term paper must be understandable without reading the appendix. The appendix may be read at the discretion of the instructor so do not put any required reading material in the appendix. **Staple** all sheets together. No unstapled term papers will be accepted.

**Some starting points.** The following journals and conferences are known to publish programming language research and may be used as starting points (this is not an exhaustive list): ACM Transactions on Prog. lang. and systems, Journal of the ACM, ACM Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages, ACM OOPSLA (another symposium), PLDI, PPDP, ICFP, ICLP, and ACM SIGPLAN Workshops.

N.B. Do **NOT** tear papers from books or journals in the library! The library has excellent CDROM databases and free printing facilities and low cost copying services.