

# CMSI 620T

## DATABASE SYSTEMS GRADUATE TUTORIAL

Fall 2022

### Assignment 1 | 21

### Research Paper Directed Draft 3

With your thoughts now funneled into one proposed avenue of research, the typical course of action is either “refine it further” or “start doing the work.” And so with this draft we aim for a little bit of both.

#### Build on what you have

First off, note that everything remains a work in progress until the work is done. So, continue to refine your *Background*, *Motivation*, and *Methods* sections as you explore the area more. The most likely sources of changes include:

- Encountering additional sources that strengthen any of the sections—they either add more foundational information, or support your identification of the problem/work at hand, or help guide the work that you seek to do in order to address the problem
- Starting some preliminary work on the project and determining, as work progresses (see below), that some revisions or adjustments are needed
- Continued proofreading and review to improve wording or style compliance

#### Spell out your proposed methods further

At this point, students are at different stages in the work—this is to be expected because everyone is working on something distinct. Some of you are still in the process of crystallizing what it is you can do in order to address the questions or problems found in the literature. If you are in this category, then you want to do that in this draft—define what you hope to do even more, so that it becomes more concrete.

#### Start the work

Some students have defined what they want to do to the point that they can start doing it. If you are in this category, then get started 😊 —create a GitHub repository (as academic research we conduct our work as open source) and start laying things out.

It’s hard to get more specific at this stage because projects will vary. Perhaps you are gathering more

data; perhaps you can start writing code. Maybe you need more technical documentation. The content that you will produce may vary, but whatever it is, if you are at this stage in your idea’s development, it becomes useful to start committing files to open-source version control.

#### Document the work

This might not come up for you until the final version of the course work, but if you get far enough along, you will want to then record what you have accomplished so far. This would produce one more section in your draft called *Results & Discussion*.

This is not an expectation for this draft, but you can start it if you feel you have reached an appropriate point for doing so.

#### Hold the line

Through all this, prior guidelines and practices continue to apply—such as:

- Do cite and list references *according to an established style manual*—the class did better this go-round but some can improve even further
- Do use your own words nearly *all the time*—the only time a direct quote is valid is when the specific wording of the quote substantially contributes to what you want to convey

#### Submission

Please upload a PDF of the latest version of your proposal to the designated assignment on Brightspace. If you are at a point where you can start your work, set up a GitHub repository and start committing to it and supply the link.

#### Scoring

Scoring is now more open-ended and individualized—overall, we want to see an appreciable delta from the previous draft to this one.