

Homework #4: Research Paper Critique

This homework is due at the beginning of class on **Thursday, April 27**. It will count for 5% of your overall grade.

An important skill for any graduate student is the ability to independently read and critique research papers. In this assignment, you are to choose a research paper related to the Semantic Web, thoroughly read it, and write a critique of the paper. This critique should be between 3 and 6 pages long, double-spaced.

The critique should summarize the paper and then provide your opinion on it. It should give the motivation for the work (i.e., why they wrote it), the methods they used (i.e., what they did and how they did it), and their conclusions (i.e., what they proved or found out). As for critiquing the paper, you should state whether you think the paper is valuable and why, and whether you think the methodology was sound (e.g., did they make unrealistic assumptions?). You should also point out anything you would have done differently, and also discuss what other research questions and problems the paper raises.

I have provided a list of “Further Reading” on the course home page (see <http://www.cse.lehigh.edu/~heflin/courses/sw-2006/further.html>). Any *research* paper from this list (i.e., not a language specification or tutorial) is acceptable. Please try to find a paper that actually interests you; if you would like to choose a paper that is not on this list then check with me first. Note, I do not provide links to the papers, but most of them can be found on the Web. Here are some hints for how to locate a paper given its citation:

- Use CiteSeer, a special search engine for Computer Science articles. Available from <http://citeseer.ist.psu.edu/cs>
- Many authors publish their articles on the Web. Try to find the home page of one of the authors directly. Use your favorite search engine or the specialized Home Page Search for computer scientists (<http://hpsearch.uni-trier.de/>).
- If all else fails, try Lehigh's library. The online catalog can be found at <http://asa.lib.lehigh.edu/uhtbin/webcat>. Lehigh also has electronic access to a number of major journals: <http://www.lehigh.edu/library/ejournals/ejournals.html>