COVID-19 Update

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1 Introduction

This document describes changes to the delivery and assessment of CISC 465 and 865.

2 Delivery

The last two weeks of CISC 465/865 were set aside for student presentations.

As discussed in the “Assessment” section below, presentations will not be given during class time. Instead, they should be uploaded.

In theory, this frees us up to cover an additional week of material (considering that the term was shortened by 1 week while classes were suspended), but I will not do so. I may post some new material over the week beginning March 23.

3 Assessment

The following is the original grading scheme.

- 50% Assignments: some or all will be written assignments, some may involve programming
- 50% Project:
  - 5% Proposal
  - 30% Report
  - 15% Presentation

I am making two major changes to this scheme. The first is that I will take the better of the following two weightings:

- Original weighting: 50% Assignments, 50% Project
- Assignment-heavy weighting: 70% Assignments, 30% Project

The second is that your project grade will be determined by the best of three methods: (1) the original method, (2) one in which the presentation weight is 90% of the project grade, and (3) one in which the report weight is 90% of the project grade. This allows you to do a presentation and not do a report, or to do a presentation and a report. (You still have the option of submitting both, if you really want to.)
\section{Introduction}

\subsection{Assignments}

The following is permitted by the existing syllabus, so it is not a change but rather a clarification.

- There will be a total of three assignments.
- Your lowest assignment of the three will be dropped.

\subsection{Project}

Originally, the project components were divided as follows (within the original 50\% of the course grade):

- 10\% Proposal
- 60\% Report
- 30\% Presentation

The new distribution is as follows: your grade will be computed using all three methods, and you receive whichever is higher.

1. Method 1 (original):
   - 10\% Proposal
   - 60\% Report
   - 30\% Presentation

2. Method 2:
   - 10\% Proposal
   - 90\% Report

3. Method 3:
   - 10\% Proposal
   - 90\% Presentation

I anticipate that most students will submit a presentation, or a report, but not both.

The due date for the presentation is April 17.
The due date for the report is also April 17.