CS120 Assignment 3
Internet Essay

Date assigned: Tuesday, April 3, 2007
Date due: Tuesday, April 17, 2007
Total points: 90

For this assignment, you are to write a 900-1500 word essay on a subject of your choosing. This subject must relate to the Internet in some way. Your essay must compare alternate ideas, present a controversial issue, and/or create an opportunity for providing opinions.

First, you must determine the subject of your essay. This should involve some Internet research to narrow down your topic. Once you've decided what to write about let me know so that I can approve it. The deadline for selecting your topic is Thursday, April 5, at 10.40am.

Once your proposal is approved, you will complete your essay. The essay will be written and submitted as a web page. The web page must contain a title in the head with the name of the essay. You should also display the title of your essay as a heading (h1) and your name below that as a smaller heading (h2). You must use 12-point Times New Roman font for the remaining text. Your paper must be a coherent and complete discussion of your topic. I expect that you use correct spelling and grammar. You should also use section headings.

Use the HTML tags that we have covered in class to give your page a professional feel.

Here's a possible organization for your essay:

1. Basic background information and history about your topic. For example if your topic were discussing MP3's, define what MP3's are and why they've been important up to now. This section can be brief, but it must be long enough to explain the basic information needed to understand your essay.

2. Explain why your topic is controversial and/or important.

3. Explain both sides of your issue. You may include others' opinions of your issue in this section.

4. Explain your opinion of the issue. Be sure to justify your opinion thoroughly.

5. Provide your opinion and/or others' opinions about what the future holds for your issue.

Remember, this is a paper that includes research you have done about some topic. So, **you must cite all your references for information about your topic**. This includes facts, opinions, background information, etc. Making citations means including a citation number or word within your text that refers to a reference listed at the end of your paper. Your citations must be a link (named anchor) to the reference's position in a list at the end of the page. References in the list may be a URL (must be linked) or a printed document such as an article or book. If you find a copy of an article online that appeared in print, include the reference to the print document as well as the URL. Neglecting to cite any information, whether it is a fact or opinion, is committing plagiarism and is a violation of the Pacific Academic Policy.

Grading will be based on grammar, spelling, organization, thoroughness and your ideas. Neglecting to cite your references properly will result in major deductions of points. Your essay (not including the title and name) must contain at least 900 words, and must not contain more than 1500 words.

How to Submit:

By 9.25am on the day the assignment is due, you must submit both a hard copy and an electronic copy of your essay.

1) Name your web page "myEssay.html" and place it in a folder called "essay" in your sites folder on Euler. I will be accessing your site by going to:

http://euler.math.pacificu.edu/~PUNet/essay/myEssay.html

2) Submit a hard copy of your essay.

Possible Topic Ideas:

- Censorship and the Internet
- In what ways has information technology changed work and working practices in the past 10 years?
- Technology is making communication easier in today's world, but at the expense of personal contact as many people choose to work at home in front of a computer screen. What dangers are there for a society which depends on computer screens rather than face-to-face contact for its main means of communication?
- Intellectual Property, including Copyright, Patents, Trademarks & Trade Secrets
- First Amendment, including Minors Online, Hate Speech, Decency & Obscenity (Pornography) and Censorship. Also Online Dating and Sexuality
- Privacy, Confidentiality, Surveillance & Related Issues