CSCE475H Multiagent Systems
Collaborative Topic Summary Assignment: Wiki!
January 20, 2015

Introduction

Collaborative topic summaries are written wikis of topics that we cover in class. The summary will be based on the lectures, the textbook, and other papers. Your summary should include at least the following

- an *overview* of the topic – motivations and underlying principles, etc.,
- a list of *praises*: a description of what you think are the important/useful aspects of the topic,
- a list of *critiques*: a description of what you think are the weaknesses of topic, and
- its *applications*: how the topic relates to real-world applications.

You will use an online wiki tool (http://agora.unl.edu). All of your actions will be tracked and recorded while you are working on the assignment online.

You are allowed to search online for information to help you write your topic summary. However, anything used must be formally cited. That is, you must have a References section in your summary. Further, you are not allowed to cite web URLs. Links are not allowed. Furthermore, you are not allowed to cite Wikipedia pages. You might find, however, references that are useful on Wikipedia, and may pursue those references, and then cite those references properly in your summary. Each summary will be submitted to Blackboard's SafeAssign tool to check for excessive similarity with other online texts.

Collaborative Contributions

On the Wiki tool, you will be allowed to rate and tag essays and participate in threaded forum discussions. You will be also encouraged to contribute to other essays. You are also required to start three different threads of discussions for the forum of your wiki essay. To start each thread, you are required to ask a meaningful question about the topic of your wiki essay.

How the Assignment Works

There are nine (9) basic topics:

- distributed constraint satisfaction
- distributed optimization
- noncooperative game
- learning and teaching
- communication
- social choice
- mechanism design
- auction
- coalitional game theory

Each team may choose one of the above topics or a sub-topic of the above to write your summaries. Further, you may choose other MAS topics from other papers as well. ***But if you do so, please inform me ahead of time to make sure that your topic is appropriate.***

Each wiki essay is required to be at least 1000 words long.

Note also it is possible that multiple students might end up writing about the same topic.

Each team is assigned to be responsible for one topic or subtopic and will be a primary contributor to that topic (or subtopic) of its choice. In addition, every team is required to contribute to three other topics. The contributions could be any of the collaborative activities listed below.

There are three deadlines:

1. **Deadline 1: Primary Contribution (April 9, 2015).** This is when every team's primary topic will be "snap-shot" and "graded". Before this deadline, a team is only allowed to contribute to its own Wiki essay. After this deadline, each team's Wiki essay will be open to *all* to edit. Please also make sure that your team starts your three threaded discussions prior to this deadline. (**Note**: The deadline is also our scheduled Midterm Exam day.)
2. **Deadline 2: Collaborative Contribution (April 23, 2015) .** This is when every team's collaborative contributions will be "snap-shot" but not graded. I will use this to give feedback and comments on your collaborative behaviors. These collaborative activities include actual contributions to the wiki essays, participation in the threaded discussions, viewing of essays, tagging essays with keywords, and rating the essays.
3. **Deadline 3: More Collaborative Contribution (April 30, 2015).** This is when every team's collaborative collaborations will be "snap-shot" and "graded".

Grading

Each team's primary contribution will be graded in the following manner:

- 20% Overview
- 20% Praises
- 20% Critiques
- 10% Applications
- 10% Threaded Discussions Started (Quality of your questions)
- 10% Grammar and Errors
- 10% Requirements

Each team's collaborative contributions will be graded in the following manner:

- 60% Wiki Editing (at least three other essays, and amount and quality)
- 30% Threaded Discussions
- 10% Rating, Tagging, and Viewing

The total of your Collaborative Wiki Essays Assignment will be 70% x your primary contribution + 30% x your collaborative contributions.