CS124 Coursework Phase I

The coursework for this lecture series consists of three phases over both semesters. Under the guidance of your tutor, you will: identify a CS topic of interest; carry out a literature review to find useful and relevant sources; draft and comment on written work; produce a final report and present your work orally.

The aim is to consider the process of communicating ideas. You will practise a set of skills that will be useful during the next three years and beyond.

The first phase will involve approximately 15 hours of your own study time. The first deadline is the end of **Week 8 (November 20th)**. Before that date, however, you will need to complete a series of steps, reporting to your tutor on a weekly basis.

Step 0 – Understand the coursework
Deadline: Week 2
Chat with course colleagues and your tutor.

Step 1 – Decide on a topic
Deadline: Week 3

Your topic can be anything that both you and your tutor find interesting in relation to Computers and Society. It should not be too general (e.g. *'Ethics of Computers'*) or too focussed (e.g. *'Privacy issues of mpeg standard v2'*).

Step 2 – Gather and discuss your source materials
Deadline: Week 6

Between Weeks 3 and 6 you should find:

a) At least 3 scholarly articles (journal and conference papers) from a digital library that will support your report writing. (www.acm.org/portal is a good starting point).
b) At least 2 physical sources (books, reports *etc.*) from the University Library.
c) At least 2 web (but non-digital library) resources.

During Week 6 you should bring all your resources to your tutorial to present and discuss.

Step 3 – Write a summary of your sources
Deadline: Week 8

For each of the sources gathered in Step 2, do the following:

a) Give the full citation details of the article.
b) Explain why you chose the article.
c) Explain the relevance it has to your topic.
d) Discuss how it *differs* from the other sources.
e) Discuss how *'authoritative'* and *'significant'* the article is.
f) Write a brief paragraph summarising the key points the source makes.

After doing this, think about the process you have been involved in and briefly discuss the relative advantages and disadvantages of using the digital library, physical library and the web.

This report should be a couple of A4 pages in length. Submit the report with your tutor's name clearly marked on it.