CS:5360 Fall 2018, Final Project Paper Guidelines

- Your final project paper should be at most 5 pages long, excluding references. Please use a single column, 11 pt format with reasonable margins (e.g., at least 1 inch on all sides). Your paper is due by 5 pm on Dec 7th.

- Make sure references are complete and accurate and figures/tables are completely labeled. For example, a plot showing running times of an algorithm should have its x-axis and y-axis clearly labeled, units of quantities should be clear (e.g., is time in seconds or minutes) and if appropriate plots should come with error bars. Similarly, mathematical notation should be consistent and should be similar to what you have seen in literature and in class.

- The paper should contain a clear narrative. Your paper cannot be just a sequence of formulae/equations. Your paper's narrative should tell a "story" with a beginning, a middle, and an end, which you should organize into self-contained, coherent sections. Some common section titles are "Introduction," "Background," "Main Results," "Experimental Setup," "Limitations," "Conclusions," etc. Of course, your section titles will depend on the content of your paper – these are just some examples of possible section titles.

- You will often have to make a judgment on what you can assume the reader already knows. Assume that a typical reader is a classmate from the "Randomized Algorithms" class. So your reader knows about Markov's Inequality, Chebyshev's Inequality, Chernoff Bounds, Lovasz Local Lemma, probability amplification, etc. You can also assume that your reader has graduate level algorithms background and undergraduate level background in discrete math, linear algebra, and probability theory. Keeping this background in mind, you should make your paper as self-contained as possible. In other words, readers should be able to understand technical material either based on their previous knowledge or via definitions presented in your paper.