Grade Distribution

- I awarded the following grades to the first eight presentations: A, A, A-, A-, B, B-, C+, C+. (Not in this order!)

- The grade distribution of the remaining presentations should be similar to the first eight.

  – Later presenters will learn from others' mistakes and successes (and from my feedback today).

  – My expectations will rise slightly over the term.

Your Term Project Report

- When reading your article, you should start thinking about how to use it as a basis for a written report. Initial ideas:

  – Compare/contrast your article's technology (or analysis or research finding) to some other published work.

  – Discover an article describing an application of this technology: how well did it work? What else was required?

- The "focus" of your presentation is an excellent guide for your search: find some other publications in your "focus area", then discover what additional insight you gain by reading these.

Requirements for Reports

- Your report should consist of nine to thirteen pages of 12-point type with generous margins and 1.5 line spacing.
- If you use someone else's words, put these in quotation marks and add a reference to your source.
- You should make good use of at least three published works, which must be listed in your bibliography.
- Try to match the style of one of the articles you read in this class.
- Technical words must be spelled and used correctly.
- You should use a spell-checker and a grammar checker (e.g. MS Word), however I will not mark you down for grammatical mistakes and spelling errors on non-technical words.

My Expectations on your Reports

- Your report should have a clear, feasible, and interesting focus. Try to find a topic which is
  - "narrow" enough that you can do a good job of covering it in ten pages and a few weeks, and
  - "wide" enough that you can write an interesting report.
- Your report should convince me that you have arrived at a good understanding of your topic area, through the course of your research this term.

Picking a Topic for your Report

- I expect you to send me an email message, containing a very brief proposal for your topic, before 9am Thursday 24 August. A single sentence would suffice, for example "My report will focus on how opaque predicates could be used in systems for software security."

- I expect to discuss your topic with you, preferably in my office but email will suffice, at least once before 21 September (= 4 weeks to the end of classes).

Final Oral Presentations

- You will make a very short (5-minute, 3-slide) oral presentation on your report, sometime during the last three weeks of lectures.

- If you make an early presentation you can get some feedback in time to improve your report.