

Assignment 1: ITEC/CSCI/ERTH-6961-01 (10% of overall credit score)

Due: September 16, 2009 (by 1200 ET)

Submission method: email to pfox@cs.rpi.edu

Document naming: 6961_2009_Assignment1_YOUR_NAME.ext (e.g. txt, pdf, doc, zip).

Late submission policy: first time with valid reason – no penalty, otherwise 20% of score deducted each late day

Office hours: Tuesday 10-11, Winslow 2120

Note: Your report for this assignment should be the result of your own individual work. Take care to avoid plagiarism (“copying”), including all web resources, texts, and class presentations. You may discuss the problems with other students, but do not take written notes during these discussions, and do not share your written solutions. Please use the numbering below when completing this assignment.

General assignment: propose two data collection exercises and perform a survey of data formats, metadata and application support for data management suitable for the data you will collect next week. Note the overall modes of data collection:

- Observation
- Measurement
- Generation

Driven by

- Questions
- Research idea
- Exploration

1. Data collection – propose two data collection options 4%
 - a. State the details of the mode of collection and what the data collection need is being driven by. 3-4 sentences.
 - b. Describe a management plan for the data acquisition and initial curation using the headings under Management slides from week 2. 1-2 sentences per category.
2. Survey of data storage/ formats 3%
 - a. Based on 1 (both proposed collections), research and describe existing suitable data formats that could be used. If no suitable format is available, describe the data format needs (detailed format specification is not required) including any structure of the data. 4-5 sentences.
3. Survey of metadata conventions, standards 3%
 - a. Based on 1 (both proposed collections), research and describe existing metadata conventions/ standards in use. If there are no suitable ones, describe the metadata needs (detailed specification is not required). 4-5 sentences.

Please include all citations and sources of information you use in Q 2 and 3.