

Expectations and Corrective Ideas

CSC-215 Chapter 1

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1 Introduction

2 Chapter 1, the CPU

2.1 Expectations

A short list of expectations written before reading any papers.

1. *Be on time*: 'nuff said
2. *MLA format*: based on
<https://www.mla.org/>, or
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>, or
an example from https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090701095636_747.pdf
3. *Length*: body of the paper, 2 - 4 pages
4. *Content*: specifications about the CPU, including:
 - (a) Cores,
 - (b) Registers,
 - (c) Bus width: 32 or 64 or 128 bits,
 - (d) Speed: clock frequency,
 - (e) Heat: how many watts at idle and max load.
5. *References*: correctly formatted and relevant to what was written.

2.2 Collective corrective measures

An unordered list of things that need corrective action. My experience as shown that the same types of things happen over and over again. So I could write the same comments over and over again, or I could refer the reader to a list of corrective items. It puts more work on the reader, less work on me, and the list is comprehensive at the end for all to use. The list grows as new things are found.

This is the list:

1. Need to focus on the CPU and less on the other supporting hardware.
2. Light on the page count.

3. Table of Contents, List of Figures, List of Tables are good. Have the software create them. Don't do them by hand. Review them to make sure they look OK.
4. Either save the document as a PDF, or print as a PDF, but look at it to see if it reflects well on you.
5. If you use an abbreviation, define it before you use it.
6. Keep the "touchy, feely" stuff to a minimum. This is about silicone hardware, not carbon software.
7. A CPU has no knowledge about any computer language except its own instruction set. Concepts about C++, Java, python, etc. are meaningless to the CPU.
8. Figures, or tables without attribution, or mention in the text are just so much "eye noise."
9. If you have something as a reference, or cited work, then it should be referenced or cited in the body of your write-up.

2.3 Additional guidelines and hints

Things that came about after reading the submissions:

1. Tables and figures are good. If you find one that is good then:
 - (a) Give it a caption so I know what I am looking at.
 - (b) Reference it in the text, otherwise why is it there.
 - (c) Include it in the list of tables or figures.
 - (d) If you didn't create it, then give credit to the creator.
 - (e) The table/figure and its caption should be "connected" on the page. Preferably centered, or justified away from the binding, but together.
2. Table of Contents, List of Figures, List of Tables are good. Have the software create them. Don't do them by hand. Review them to make sure they look OK.
3. Either save the document as a PDF, or print as a PDF, but look at it to see if it reflects well on you.
4. Spell check, spell check, spell check. Realize that just because a word isn't in your dictionary that it is wrong (see wold and gruntled), and just because it passes spell check doesn't mean it is correct (see told and tolled).
5. For me, I write it, I leave it rest, and I read it from back to front.
6. If you use an abbreviation, define it before you use it.
7. There are many different page number styles in a document. The front matter should be roman and the body should be Arabic starting at 1.
8. MLA has specifications about page number placement and format.