Grading Checkpoints

- The research proposal will be graded on quality of contents, the manner in which your proposal was written, how well you convince readers about both the problem you found and the solutions you suggest, and how much you have followed instructions and guidelines suggested in this class by discussions and written documents.
- The following grading scale (-0 to -2) will be used for each of the following 10 checkpoints:
  - Average (-0)/Need Improvement (-1)/Serious Flaws (-2)
- Introduction
  - Do you introduce what are the key issues in the problem domain and its background? Are comparisons well done among the current advances you surveyed and your idea suggested in the proposal? Describe briefly what you are going to do to solve the problem? Focus on background, comparisons, elicitation of problems and potential research topics
- Project Objectives
  - Have you state clearly what is to be accomplished and why it is significant enough for a master’s project or thesis?
  - Have you describe clearly and precisely what you are going to do to solve that problem? Focus on discussing the objectives.
- Project Activities
  - Have you described in detail how the objectives will be achieved? Have you described the development phases and the tasks that will be performed?
  - Describe in detail how you solve the problem (or how you develop the software) step by step. Describe your research (or development) tasks and activities. Focus on detailed tasks, activities, and deliverables.
- Environment
  - Have you properly described the computers, programming languages, and software tools that will be used for your research?
- Project Results
  - Have you defined clearly what the final products of the project will be? Identify what you will deliver to your advisor (and the CS Department) for demonstration and presentation when your project is completed.
- Project Schedule
  - The project schedule should define what you are going to do and when you are planning to do it. You should consider how long each activity will take, which activities must precede others, and how much overlap is possible or desirable. The schedule should identify tasks to be performed, milestones to be met, and the estimated number of hours for each task. The total of 150 – 200 hours of effort is expected for a thesis or a project.
- Bibliography
  - Is the reference format correct? Are citations done properly? Are enough (and appropriate) references found and used?
- Elicitation of Problems and Solutions
  - How well you have surveyed the problem domain, and how well you draw the problem from your survey and suggest any solutions in your research.
- Logical Flow
  - Logical flow between the survey report and the research proposal
  - Is the document well organized?
  - Do not cut and paste from the surveyed documents.
- Overall Impression
  - What is the overall impression of the proposal?