

Classwork Week 1: Enhancing Course Understanding with AI Tools

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 Assign To

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Activity Objective

Gain hands-on experience using AI tools to better understand the course syllabus and enhance your problem-solving skills in computer science.

Instructions

Set Up

1. Open **Perplexity.ai**  (<https://www.perplexity.ai/>).
2. Download the PDF version of the **CS2104: Intro to Problem Solving in CS** syllabus from here: [CS2104 Problem Solving in Computer Science.pdf](https://canvas.vt.edu/courses/204793/files/40235225?wrap=1) (<https://canvas.vt.edu/courses/204793/files/40235225?wrap=1>).
3. Upload the syllabus PDF to Perplexity.ai.

Interact with the AI

1. Use Perplexity.ai to ask questions about the syllabus or course content. Ensure that your questions reflect areas where you need clarification or want more insight.
2. **Ask at least six questions.**
 - A. Here are some sample questions to guide you:
 - A. *How should I contact my instructor?*
 - B. *What if I have an excused absence?*
 - C. *What is the honor code policy?*
 - D. *When are classwork assignments due?*
 - B. Create your own additional questions based on your interests or areas of uncertainty in the syllabus.
3. Answer Reflection questions.

Documentation

Use the template below to record your findings and reflections:

Assignment Perplexity Template.docx (<https://canvas.vt.edu/courses/204793/files/37386056?wrap=1>)

By submitting this assignment, I affirm that I abide by the honor code pledge:

"I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment."

Points 25

Submitting a file upload

File Types docx and pdf

Due	For	Available from	Until
-	Everyone	-	-

Perplexity rubric You've already rated students with this rubric. Any major changes could affect their assessment results.				
Criteria	Ratings			Pts
Number of Questions Asked and Responses Received	10 pts At least six questions were asked, and all responses are thoroughly documented.	5 pts Fewer than six questions were asked, or some responses are missing or incomplete.	0 pts No questions were asked or responses are largely incomplete or absent.	10 pts

Reflection Question 1: How did Perplexity.ai enhance your understanding of the syllabus or course concepts?	5 pts Provides specific examples of how Perplexity.ai improved understanding, such as clarifying difficult concepts, offering additional resources, or presenting information in a clearer manner.	3 pts Gives a general answer without clear examples, mentioning vague improvements like "helped me understand better."	0 pts No mention of how Perplexity.ai contributed to understanding the syllabus or course concepts.	5 pts
Reflection Question 2: Were there any limitations in the responses?	5 pts Identifies specific limitations or challenges in using Perplexity.ai, such as occasional inaccuracies, lack of detail, or limitations in scope. Provides thoughtful analysis.	3 pts Mentions a general limitation but without detailed explanation or examples, such as "it wasn't always accurate."	0 pts No mention of limitations or challenges encountered.	5 pts
Reflection Question 3: How might you use this tool for other courses or personal learning goals?	5 pts Provides specific, actionable suggestions for how the tool could be applied in different learning contexts.	3 pts Mentions vague uses, such as "I could use it for other courses," without detailed examples or reasoning.	0 pts No mention of how the tool could be used for other courses or personal learning goals.	5 pts
Total Points: 25				