

CMSC 735
Assignment 6

May 2, 2006
Due May 9, 2006

I assume most of you are working on a thesis or dissertation, or will be. It would be good if it had an empirical component. The purpose of this assignment is to allow you to think about how you would provide an empirical component to your thesis. For example, if you are developing a technique, how would you specify the goal of the technique and define a study that would allow you to verify that it can achieve that goal.

If you do not have a thesis topic, pick an old class project. If you need some help picking something, come talk to me or one of your other professors for a suggestion.

Write a GQM goal for the thesis topic, i.e. what is the problem you are solving, and design an empirical study or experiment that will in some way support the theory that your solution satisfies the goal.

You should write a GQM characterization, evaluation, or prediction goal (use the GQM template) for the study, give a specific, detailed model and a study design, pointing out the major threats to validity in interpreting the results of the study. (20 points)

You must limit yourself to a MAXIMUM of 4 pages, 12 size times font.