CS 4001 - Term Paper Outline – 35 points

You should have identified the topic of your term paper. The rest of the term will be spent actually writing it. To help in this process, write a detailed outline

- **Outline.** An outline is a hierarchical plan of the document with indentation reflecting the organization of material. You should have much more detail by this stage of your project than a mere outline of section headings. (Such an outline would indicate what your paper will be about but not what it will say. Summarize what you're going to say.) In preparing this document, you may find it useful to use an appropriate tool, such as OmniOutliner or MS Word in outline mode.

This document should be a shortened, highlevel, or more abstract summary of what your term paper will say, not what topic it is about. If you can only list subtopics, not what you are going to say about them, then you haven't made enough progress yet. Your outline should include both claims and arguments with supporting evidence. Your outline does not need complete sentences, but what you write should be clearly understandable.

Two or three pages is about right for an outline. If you have evidence to support a claim, include a citation in proper format within the outline and include your list of references at the end. (You may add references that did not originally appear in your references document.) This is where using a bibliographic tracking software such as BibTex (For Latex) or EndNote (for Word) will help you out greatly.

When we grade your outline we will be asking the following questions:

1. Is the claim clear?
2. Is the organization of the argument rational?
3. Does the claim and its supporting arguments have evidence to back them up?
4. Are counterarguments fairly presented and addressed?
5. Is sufficient background given to explain issues to the target audience?
6. Are sources of appropriate "weight" and are their enough of them to support your claims?
7. Are you using appropriate references to support your claim and citing them correctly?

Submit: A PDF of your outline. Be sure to include your name at the top of the assignment.