TELE9752 wiki extension assignment instructions

The aim of the wiki extension assignment is to add to the wiki (tele9752.wikia.com) content that is of particular interest to the class and that relates to Network Operations and Control. In the first stage of the assignment, the class will nominate topics that they would like to see added to the wiki. They will then have the chance to rate topics to indicate their degree of interest in them. Each student will then be allocated one topic for which they must create a wiki page to describe that topic.

Nominating topics

- You can nominate a topic by "Add a new discussion topic" to the "Wiki extension assignment topics" forum on Moodle. The Subject should succinctly describe the topic, and the Message should further define the topic, in enough detail for fellow students and the Lecturer to understand the topic.
- Nominations that duplicate or substantially overlap material already covered by the course or an earlier nomination will be ignored (i.e. not allocated). i.e. search the wiki and nomination forum for information about a topic before you nominate the topic. While duplication is undesirable, topics that *extend* those already covered in the course are highly desireable.
- The Lecturer will assume that in nominating a topic, you would like to be allocated to make the wiki page about that topic. If that assumption is false (e.g. you're just interested in reading about the topic), then state clearly in your nomination "I do not wish to make the wiki page for this topic."
- You can nominate multiple topics, but you will only be allocated one topic.
- Your nomination of topics will not affect your assessment.
- The Lecturer has posted a default list of topics that will be used if the class nominates insufficient topics for one to be allocated to each student. This default list is related to NOC only by virtue of terms that appear in the list appearing in the management interface for a typical (the Lecturer's) home gateway. Topics in the list are deficient in that their link to NOC is weak and they are not (yet) described in sufficient detail due to their number; topics that you nominate should not have the same deficiencies. The choice of a home gateway is intended to somewhat match student interest in that most students would have similar gateways and may be curious about the features that their management interfaces offer. You might want to nominate topics that appear on your own devices' management interfaces that is not listed here. In that case, be sure to include a screen capture with your nomination and details about your device (e.g. manufacturer and model number) so that another student would be able to research the topic.
- Topics (both when nominated and the resulting wiki page that discusses them) should be understandable to TELE9752 students, i.e. the only prerequisite knowledge should be an introductory course on communication networks. For that reason, several security features of the Lecturer's home gateway are not included in the default list.
- You should consider the topic rating and allocation processes (described below) when deciding what to nominate, since they give you an incentive to nominate interesting topics
- Topics must be nominated by the end of week 3, i.e. Sun Aug 17 to be allocated for the assignment.
- You are encouraged to nominate topics after week 3 if you think of them then, e.g. as you realise from this course that there are other interesting NOC topics that you would like to learn more about, but such nominations will not affect the assignment (for this class, but they might help future classes).

Rating topics

For each topic posted in the Moodle nomination forum by somebody else, you should be able to give a Yes/No rating for that topic. Express your interest in a topic by giving it a "Yes" rating, and indicate that you consider a topic to not be interesting by giving it a "No" rating. "Interest" here means interest in reading a wiki page about the topic; it doesn' mean desire to create that wiki page. Please make at least 5 "Yes" ratings, and at least 2 "No" ratings, but feel free to rate all topics. Ratings are anonymous to the class. Ratings must be made by the end of week 4. When reading topic nominations, e.g. for rating purposes, you may post a reply about a topic to ask for further information, e.g. clarification. Nominators should respond to such replies.

Allocating topics

The Lecturer will allocate topics to students in week 5. Topics will be ranked according to their ratings, and those with the highest ratings (largest difference between number of Yes and No ratings) will be allocated first, provided that the Lecturer deems that they are relevant to the course. If a student nominated a topic, did not state that they "do not wish to make the wiki page for this topic." and has not yet (when iterating from highest to lowest rated topic) been allocated a topic, then they will be allocated that topic. If the class of C students consists of T such students, who each have a nomination in the top C topics, plus B students who nominated topics that were rated below the top C, and C-T-B other students who did not nominate topics, then after the T students have been allocated topics, then the B students who also nominated topics will be allocated topics, and finally the C-T-B students who did not nominate topics will be allocated a topic. i.e. the more interesting to other students the topic you nominate, the higher the chance that you will be allocated it or another topic that the class considers interesting. **i.e. you have an incentive to nominate interesting topics**.

Creating pages about topics

You will be allocated a page ID to go with your topic, and you should create a page on the wiki with that ID tha describes your allocated topic. The wiki pages should not merely add more information, but should give students insight into the topics, e.g. for features of a cable gateway explaining what they are used for, what alternatives exist, what are the pros and cons of the alternatives, how the feature is implemented, an example of the configuration settings. Your page should link to relevant resources on the Internet about your topic. Your page can include limited (e.g. at most 30%) background information to allow a reader who has the prerequisite knowledge for this course to understand the topic being described. Your page should be reasonably concise, e.g. more than 500 words would probably be hard to justify. Your page must list (as references or hyperlinks) the sources for your information, and it must not plagiarise - see the course outline for details about plagiarism. Your page should demonstrate (e.g. through references) that you have investigated the topic in more depth than merely looking up the topic in Wikipedia or a limited number of sources. You should attempt to relate the topic to other topics that are covered by TELE9752, e.g. by linking to the relevant wiki pages. You must describe your topic in the wiki by the end of week 9.