**Network Research Project (NRP)**

You have been hired as part of the networking team at UMGC.  After completing orientation and training, your manager calls you into a meeting to discuss your first project.

The University is interested in creating a repository of networking knowledge based on research papers.  The research papers will be drafted by all employees, and you may select from a list of approved topics.  Project topic is “Compare and Contrast network policies and best practices. Main bullet point for the project are outlined below.

**Network Research Project (NRP) Topic details:**

Compare and Contrast network policies and best practices.

* Privileged user agreement
* Password policy
* On-boarding/off-boarding procedures
* Licensing restrictions
* International export controls
* Data loss prevention
* Remote access policies
* Incident response policies
* BYOD
* AUP
* NDA
* System life cycle (asset disposal)
* Safety procedures and policies

The research paper represents a great opportunity to focus additional study towards a networking topic of your interest.  It is also an opportunity for you to gain further expertise about a particular aspect of networking fundamentals that you will be asked about in the certification exam.

Further details about the Network Research Project are provided below.

**Network Research Project (NRP) Requirements**

The Network Research Project (NRP) expectations are to explain the concepts you are learning as part of this Networking Fundamentals course.  This is not an extensive review of the topic areas, but instead a cursory exploration of any approved topic you find most interesting.

You should consider the additional details below to guide you through completion of the NRP.

* Quality is valued over quantity, but quantity is necessary for a quality paper.  It is estimated that 3 - 5 pages (not including the title page) would be necessary to address each Network Research Project (NRP) topic.
* Each Network Research Project (NRP) must have an Introduction.  The introduction should address the purpose of your project, and an overview of what you will convey to the reader.  Each NRP must have a Conclusion.  The conclusion should summarize your findings in a succinct manner.  The remaining format will be at your discretion.  It is suggested that you review the NRP details under each approved topic and outline their paper accordingly.  You should maintain a consistent format throughout the entirety of the document.
* Five scholarly articles sources minimum. In text citation is a must.
* All sources must be cited using the IEEE format.  [This](https://libguides.murdoch.edu.au/IEEE) is an excellent guide that covers all aspects of citing in IEEE style.  Why do we use IEEE format?  IEEE format is used in technical fields when writing research papers.  Do not plagiarize any material or content.  The use of figures and diagrams is encouraged where appropriate.  Students should contact [UMUC Effective Writing Center](http://www.umuc.edu/current-students/learning-resources/writing-center/index.cfm) for any required writing assistance.
* You should use proper terminology and expand acronyms in each paragraph they are used. For example, the first time in a paragraph an acronym is used it should be expanded (e.g., University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC)).  Thereafter, and as long as you are in the same paragraph, the acronym (e.g., UMGC) can be used. When starting a new paragraph, the rule begins anew.
* Review the Network Research Project (NRP) grading rubric to understand the expectations, and how the final draft will be graded.