**CISC 879 Knowledge Exam Study Guide – Tuesday, Nov 26, 2013**

**The syllabus reads:**

(10% of final grade) Knowledge Exam - There will be one in-class, written exam to assess your knowledge of the concepts, problems, techniques, limitations of papers discussed in class and performed in homework assignments. This exam will be prior to the final project presentations starting, about 3/4 of the way through the semester.

**Exam Goal:** There are two major goals:

* To assess your overall knowledge of the major problems, challenges in solving those problems, techniques, tools, and applications of text analysis in software engineering.
* To assess your skills in reading, summarizing, and critiquing a research paper in Text Analysis in Software Engineering.

**Exam Format:** There will be two parts to the exam. All in-class, individual work.

**Part I: Knowledge assessment (1/2 hour)**

This will be a set of questions (short answer, multiple choice). These questions will focus on the major highlights if you reflect on the various papers we read.

What are the problems involved in text analysis of software?

What are the challenges specific to particular kinds of software artifacts?

What kinds of software engineering problems have been solved using text analysis?

What kinds of approaches have been used? Which ones seem to work well?

What kinds of open problems still exist?

**Part 2: Skills assessment (3/4 hour)**

You will be given a research paper we have not read for class, but in text analysis for software engineering. You will be asked a set of questions about the paper, such as:

What is the overall problem being addressed?

Why do the authors state it is important?

What is the specific problem that the authors are addressing?

What are the key aspects of their approach?

What are the key components of their evaluation methodology?

What are the take away messages of their results of their evaluation?

What key elements of their methodology are good? Which ones could cause bias/threats to validity of their results for generalization?

What restrictions/limitations do you see in their research?

What open problems/questions remain after their research?