History of Computing - Written Assignments – Corrected Dates

These 3 assignments will be counted as Exams.

Guidelines for Written Assignments
Submit written assignments to TurnItIn by the date specified below. You can submit as many times as you want up to the due date. A late penalty of 10 points per 24 hours will be assessed. Title each essay as shown below.

Place a header including your name and assignment title centered at the top of the first page only. Include bibliographical information if applicable (title, author, date source). Attach a copy of the article or a link to it in the email. Essays #1 and #2 require an article.

Single spaced. Approximately 1000 to 2000 words in length for the body of the essay – may vary but be sure to answer the questions thoroughly and succinctly. Body - Indent each paragraph ½ inch or 5 spaces. Do not add additional spaces between paragraphs. (FYI: Times New Roman font size 12, 1 page single spaced will be approximately 700 words, so your essay will be about 2 to 3 pages.)

An ESSAY is not a research paper. I use the term essay because it is to heavily incorporate your EVALUATION, ASSESSMENT, and OPINION of the topic. Give your opinions freely, but support them with facts and research as much as possible. You may use other people’s opinions, also, but be sure to cite your sources. You might view your essay a short paper that is trying to convince me of your view.

Grading
Grade will be based on format & length (as specified above), and grammar. The overriding factor, however, will be content. I urge you to write, let it sit a day, read aloud to yourself, then revise. Because there is little testing, the written assignments will make up a significant portion of your grade. Be certain that you clearly address the question being asked and have your facts-answers correct.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated. Penalties range from receiving a grade of zero on an assignment to receiving a grade of F in the course. The primary consideration is the following: You may include in your writing references to any sources, ideas from your sources, but you may NOT use a direct quote from your sources. YOU MUST cite the sources and give credit to the source/author. This web site contains a variety of links to provide more details and instruction. http://www.plagiarism.org/

To cite your sources use the traditional, numbered list of references at the end of your essay and use the numbers in the body. See the “File Paper” information on how to create your reference list. (Do not include the list in the required length of the essay.) You may cite a source as part of the body of your essay, e.g. “In his book “A History of Modern Computing”, Paul Ceruzzi suggests that ...” but you MUST still use a numerical citation and include it in the reference list. Please feel free to consult me with any questions regarding appropriate use of citations.

Essay #1 - “Were they right?” – Due Friday, March 13
Find an article that was published in the 1960’s, 70’s, or 80’s (earlier is ok, but will be harder to find) which includes in it predictions or implications about the future of the computer or some aspect of computing. (There are several of these listed in the bibliography at the back of the textbook. See your text pages 104 & 121 for examples.) This can be the same article as used for your presentation, but may be a different on, depending on the appropriateness to the GOAL stated above.

Write approximately 1 page word reviewing main points (predictions) of the article. Then 1 page words answering the question “Were they right?”

Essay #2 - “The Effect of Computing Technology on ?????” – Due Wednesday, April 8
Fill in the ???? with a current and interesting topic of your choice. Some possibilities include, but are not limited to: stock market, education, war, military, communication, shopping, terrorism, banking, manufacturing, etc. Discuss the nature of your topic before or in early years of computing technology, and how it has changed over the years. You must read at least 1 article related to your topic and incorporate the article’s ideas into your essay. This is NOT an article review, however; it is an essay.

Essay #3 - “How Computing Changed the World” – Due Wednesday, April 29
State 4 significant ways in which computers have changed the world in general or persons’ lives in particular. For each one, discuss how this change has been both positive and negative. Each discussion should be between 500 and 750 words. You cannot use the same topic that you used for Essay #2.