

MA 391 ESSAY # 6

Choose ONE of the two topics below for your essay. Be sure to provide evidence in support of your conclusion. Your essay should be typed, double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font, at least 750 words.

- (1) College football's Bowl Championship Series rankings are computed by aggregating polls of coaches, former players, and commentators with rankings produced by computer algorithms, such as PageRank. Over the years, various people have advocated for eliminating either the human element or the computer algorithms from the formula. If you were in charge of the BCS, what method would you use for determining the rankings? What arguments are there in favor of your position?

- (2) How significant a role does Google play in current US politics? Do you think that Google has a responsibility to modify its algorithms to moderate the spread of inaccurate or harmful content? Why or why not?