Your major digital forensics project must include the following components.

- **Project Abstract:** Write an abstract of your project and have it approved by the instructor. The abstract must briefly, but convincingly, outline how you will address each aspect of your project (see below).
- **Preliminary Evaluation:** Present a brief status update on your project to the class. Receive feedback on any modifications needed.
- **Digital Forensics Implementation:** Develop a digital forensics tool for some problem. You will have to address why your implementation is important to digital forensics.
- **Digital Forensics Research:** Apply your knowledge of digital forensics to move some component of digital forensics research forward. If you are enrolled in the undergraduate course, your research may be reproducing someone else’s results. If you are enrolled in the graduate course, your research must in some manner go beyond what is currently best practice. Each individual must contribute appropriately to group projects.
- **Analysis:** Analyze the results of your experiment. The analysis of your work must include comparison to the literature for the type of problem and digital forensics research you do. Also address what future work should be done based on your results.
- **Final Paper:** Write your paper according to the 2006 SAC standard. Make sure that your paper discusses the problem, the research, the implementation, and the analysis. For group projects, include an appendix that clearly shows each group member’s contribution in research, implementation, and analysis.
- **Final Presentation:** Present your work to the class. Your presentation must address specifically the real-world nature of the digital forensics problem that you are addressing, the research you did, the implementation of your tool, your results, and finally the analysis of your work. Each group member must actively participate in the presenting the work AND in evaluating other group’s work.
- **Note:** The complexity of your digital forensics implementation and the problem tackled needs to balance with your digital forensics research and the size of your group. It will not be acceptable to do simple things on both parts. However, if the digital forensics research portion of your work is substantial, then it will be acceptable to do a relatively simple digital forensics implementation.