

CMPSC 480
Software Innovation 1
Fall 2019

ASSIGNMENT 5:
What You Might Actually Do

Point value: 20 pts.
Assigned: 17 October
Due: 24 October

Objective

To conduct a brief survey of job or graduate school application listings to discover how they do (or *don't*) speak to your experience.

Goals

- To learn to decode what application announcements say about the opportunities they advertise
- To understand what various opportunities have in common and how this impacts your résumé arrangements
- To understand how to use cover letters to address gaps between or experiences/skills required by position listings
- To learn skills for finding positions that are appropriate for your interests and skill levels
- To discover ways to talk about and negotiate for your identity as a computer scientist

Reading Assignment

- Why Software is Eating the World
- Don't Call Yourself a Programmer
- (Optional) Finding Great Developers

Assignment Activity & Required Deliverables

For use during class on 24 October:

- Make a list of ten (5) companies or five (5) graduate schools at which you'd like to put in an application (if considering both, make a list of 2 graduate programs and 3 companies)
 - JOB/INTERNSHIP LISTINGS: **Print** one (1) job or internship listing for *each company*. Regardless of where you find the listing, it's always best to go to the source (the actual company page listing the position)
 - GRADUATE PROGRAMS: **Compile and print** a document containing the following sections for *each* program:

- * Faculty at the institution who study/are interested in topics you're curious about pursuing (if you can't find any at a given program, it's probably not the right one for you)
- * A list of admissions requirements (usually listed on the program's site)
- * A list of documents *and* deadlines required for applications (think of this as a kind of task list)

Evaluation

This assignment will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Submission contains appropriate number of documents as described in the **Assignment Activity & Required Deliverables** section.
- Submission contains an appropriate amount of detail (i.e. are complete listings)
- Submission demonstrates a discernible through-line (i.e. rationale) for choices of organizations or schools

Turning in the Assignment

Commit your list and your position listings/graduate school documentation to your GitHub repository for this assignment.