CSCI 4600: Senior Seminar
Spring 2020 Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Vincent A. Cicirello   **Office:** G116
E-mail: Please use course Blackboard mail tool.   **Phone (office):** x3526

Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 11:00am-12:15pm
           Available other times by appointment; drop-ins also welcome

Course Time and Location: W: 3:35pm-5:25pm, B011

Pre-reqs: Minimum grade of C in all of the following CSCI 3103, CSCI 3250, CSCI 2226, and MATH 2216.

Restrictions: Juniors/Seniors only, and (CSCI majors or CSIS majors)

Number of Credits: 2

Course Description: In this seminar, computer science majors learn to evaluate the impact of current computing practice and trends; and gain an understanding of professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities. Students read and report on articles from the computing literature, and also develop a professional resume.

This course fulfills Stockton University's Values/Ethics (V) requirement.

Computer Science Student Outcomes: This course supports students in their development of the following Computer Science student outcomes:
- Outcome 3: An ability to communicate effectively in a variety of professional contexts.
    - 3.b: Students will create and present oral technical presentations.
    - 3.c: Students will write technical reports on a current computing topic.
- Outcome 4: An ability to recognize professional responsibilities and make informed judgments in computing practice based on legal and ethical principles.
    - 4.a: Students will know the ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.
    - 4.b: Students will evaluate case studies of ethical dilemmas in computing.
    - 4.c: Students will demonstrate understanding of intellectual property issues.

Course IDEA Objectives: The IDEA objectives of this course include:
- Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., ACM Code of Ethics, introduction to intellectual property laws and issues, etc).
- Developing skill in expressing myself orally or in writing (e.g., writing and presenting on a current computing topic).
- Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth.
- Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making.
- Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.

Required Readings:
- ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/about/acm-code-of-ethics-and-professional-conduct.pdf)
- Journal articles and conference papers
- Computing ethics case studies

Grading: Attendance / participation: 30%
Exam: 20%
Annotated bibliography: 20%
Presentation: 15%
Professional resume: 15%

Grading Scale:

A: at least 90.00	A-: at least 89.00	B+: at least 88.00
B: at least 80.00	B-: at least 79.00	C+: at least 78.00
C: at least 70.00	C-: at least 69.00	D+: at least 68.00
D: at least 60.00	D-: at least 59.00	F: less than 59.00

I reserve the right to adjust the scale at the very end of the semester. Such adjustments are rare, but will only be in your favor; and are highly unlikely to occur at the D-/F boundary. Note the 2 decimal places in the chart above (i.e., I do not round to the nearest whole number): e.g., unless I adjust the grade scale, an 89.99 is an A-, etc. If I adjust the scale, it is done using a semi-automated approach involving clustering (i.e., "automated" == a program I wrote suggests a new scale based on all of the grades of the class; "semi-" == if that program's output is crazy, I ignore it and leave the scale alone; and "clustering" == a statistical technique). I never simply add a constant number of points to everyone's overall course score.

Other Grade Related Info: If you are in the B.S. in Computer Science, then this course is a core required course and must be passed with at least a C to count toward your degree requirements.

Attendance and Participation: This portion of your grade is not free points. Attendance is mandatory. Participation includes interacting with any guest speakers, as well as participating in all in class activities, which may include peer-review/peer-editing of resumes, annotated bibliographies, etc. Participation also includes interacting with student presenters (asking questions, etc). If you miss class due to illness, please provide documentation when you are able to return to your classes to avoid losing attendance/participation points. Likewise, if you will miss class due to a religious holiday, you must inform me of the dates of those absences in writing (e.g., a message in Blackboard is fine) within the first 10 business days of the semester (see the Stockton policy: https://stockton.edu/policy-procedure/documents/procedures/2030.pdf).

Exam on Ethics and Intellectual Property: The exam covers the following: (a) ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct; (b) intellectual property laws, issues, and trends, including copyright and patent laws as applied to software, as well as open source software license agreements; and (c) an ethical dilemma case study. Parts (a) and (b) will be tested with multiple choice, true/false, short answer type questions. Part (c) will involve reading a short case study involving an ethical dilemma, and writing a 3 to 5 paragraph essay in response to a question about that case study. In your response to that essay question, you should utilize the ACM Code of Ethics, wherever appropriate, in support of your analysis.

Annotated Bibliography: During the semester, you will write an annotated bibliography, including summaries and your analysis of a minimum of 5 technical articles (from journals or peer-reviewed conferences) from any topic of computing of your choosing. Your analysis of the articles you read should include a discussion of the potential impact that the research has on individuals, organizations, or society as a whole. The ACM Digital Library, available through the Stockton University library website, is an excellent source of articles, although you are not limited to what is contained there.

Presentation: During the last few weeks of the semester, each student will give a presentation (15-20 minutes) discussing one or more of the articles that you read. Your presentation should make appropriate use of PowerPoint and/or other relevant presentation materials.

Professional Resume: You will develop (or refine, if you already have one) a professional resume.

Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams will not be given (i.e., missed exam = 0), with the following exceptions:

1. Medical excuse: Provide documentation the first class you return after the missed exam. I suggest providing the documentation to the Wellness Center who will then contact all of the instructors of your courses.
2. Other institutional excuses: Situations may arise related to Stockton that prevents you from being able to attend an exam. In most such cases, you should be aware of the conflict beforehand. Thus, I must be notified one week prior to the missed exam. Send me e-mail via Blackboard with the details of the planned absence, and provide written documentation (e.g., memo from sports coach, from faculty sponsoring a field trip, etc).
3. Based on University policy (https://stockton.edu/policy-procedure/documents/procedures/2030.pdf), if you are to be absent for a religious holiday on the date of an exam, you must notify me of that planned absence during the first 10 business days of the semester.

Late Policy: Assignments are graded on a 100 point scale. Penalty is 1 point for each hour (or part of an hour) late. For example, submit an assignment 10 hours late and lose 10 points of the assignment's grade. Submit an assignment 1.25 hours late, and lost 2 points. Submit an assignment a full day late and lose 24 points off the assignment's grade.

Academic Honesty: Please familiarize yourself with Stockton's policy on academic honesty. Each violation is penalized by a 0 on the relevant assignment/exam/etc, plus a 10 point penalty on your overall course grade. For example, if you have one violation, you'll have a 0 on that assignment or exam plus 10 points off your overall average, but if you have two violations, you'll have grades of 0 on the two assignments/exams/etc and 20 points off your overall average. Example violations include, but are not limited to: (a) any form of cheating on an exam or assignment, (b) passing off the work of another as your own (including other students, former students, websites, etc), (c) assisting someone in violating the academic honesty policy, (d) asking someone to assist you in cheating or other academic honesty violations (even if they refuse to help you cheat), etc. [Yes, I encountered that last one once in a General Studies course.]

Incomplete Policy: In general, no grades of incomplete will be given. The only exception to this rule is an institutionally documented medical emergency that necessitates your complete absence from Stockton for at least two continuous semester weeks. Additionally, you must be caught up on all work up to the point where your medical emergency began and currently in the "C" range or better overall at the point where the emergency began.

Deadlines:

- **Draft 1 of Annotated Bibliography:** February 26, by classtime, you must have three (3) paper copies of draft 1 of annotated bibliography with you in class (and electronic copy also submitted in Blackboard). Draft must include at least 3 articles.
- **Draft 2 of Annotated Bibliography:** March 25, by classtime, you must have three (3) paper copies of draft 2 of annotated bibliography with you in class (and electronic copy also submitted in Blackboard). Draft must include at least 5 articles.
- **Reviewed Copies of Annotated Bibliography:** April 29, by classtime, you must submit the paper copies of drafts 1 and 2 that other students gave you feedback on.
- **Final Version of Annotated Bibliography:** May 1 by 11:59pm in Blackboard as a Word docx.
- **Resume:** May 4 by 11:59pm in Blackboard as either a pdf (preferred) or Word docx.
- **Presentation:** An electronic copy of your PowerPoint slides is due by 11:59pm of the day that you give your presentation (submission in Blackboard).

Approximate Course Schedule: This schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and within Blackboard.

Date	Topic
January 22	Course Overview
29	ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
February 5	Patents: What they are, the application process, etc
12	Protecting intellectual property: copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets
19	Open source license agreements
26	Peer review of draft of Annotated Bibliography (minimum of 3 articles)
March 4	Resume Presentation by the Career Center
11	Exam on Ethics and Intellectual Property
18	**Spring Break Week**
25	Peer review of draft of Annotated Bibliography (minimum of 5 articles)
April 1	Student presentations
8	**Preceptorial Advising (No Classes)**
15	Student presentations
22	Student presentations
29	Student presentations