

CSCI 400 Senior Seminar

Department of Engineering and Computer Science
College of Engineering and Technology
Virginia State University, Petersburg, Virginia

Fall 2016

Instructor	Hui Chen, Ph.D.	Office Phone	(804)524-5428
Office	HM 302Sc	E-mail	hchen@vsu.edu
Office Hours	08:00 – 10:00 Monday 08:00 – 09:00 Wednesday 08:00 – 10:00 Friday 11:00 – 12:00 Friday and by appointment		

Class Meeting

CSCI 400 is a 2-credit hour seminar class. The class meeting time consists of 2 parts.

Oral Presentation Time and Location

2:00 – 3:00 PM Friday, August 15 – December 5, 2016 HM 14S

Group Study and Discussion

3:00 – 4:00 PM Friday, August 15 – December 5, 2016 HM 14S

Catalog Description

Discussions based on current researches that are facilitated by students, faculty members, or industry representatives. Students are expected to facilitate the discussion at least once during the semester. The impact of the research in a global and societal context will be discussed.

Prerequisites: Senior level standing in Computer Science or consent of Instructor

Textbook

See class website at <https://huichen-cs.github.io/course/CSCI400/> under the *resources* tab.

Course Learning Outcomes

Students are expected,

1. to participate and lead discussion pertaining to recent trends in the computer science discipline;

2. to gain a broad understanding of a particular area of computing literature search, reading, presentation, and discussion;
3. to have the ability to communicate effectively in writing as well as orally on computing and related subjects;
4. to recognize the need for and have the ability to engage in continuing professional development;
5. to recognize professional, ethical, legal, security, and social issues and responsibilities;
6. and to have the ability to analyze the impact of computing on society.

Class Participation

Students' attendance and active class participation are expected and required. Students are also expected to maintain appropriate affect and demeanor.

Student Group and Group Study

The instructor requires that students form groups of 2 or 3 students.

Research Topics

The instructor will choose research papers for the students to choose from. The list of papers will be distributed to the students in the 1st class meeting.

Individual Assignment

Student Oral Presentation

Most in-class meetings will host student presentations on selected research papers.

Each student will have 3 minutes to set up her or his presentation. A student presentation will be 20 minutes followed by a 7-minute Q&A session.

Every student is expected to make two or more oral presentations on a research paper. *The student must select the paper of her or his choice one week after the instructor has posted the list of the papers. The student must submit the presentation slides to the instructor by 5PM the Wednesday in the week of the presentation in Blackboard.* The instructor expects each student presentation slides to be at least 15 slides.

Group Assignment

Writing Assignment and Submission

Each group must complete and submit two types of writing assignments.

- Meeting log for each group meeting.
- Concise summary of papers and oral presentations.

A group must complete and submit the two types of writing assignment regardless any member of the group is presenting.

The instructor will provide templates for the writing assignments and the templates are available in Blackboard.

All writing assignments are work of a group. Group members must take turn to lead the writing. Nevertheless, when making a submission, *a group should prepare at least three versions of the same writing assignment,*

1. *the initial draft written by the lead writer,*
2. *the 2nd draft revised by the other group member,*
3. *and final version agreed by all group members.*

Disability Services

The Americans with Disability Act (ADA) is intended to insure that students have equal access to the campus and course materials. The instructor will work with the students with Disabilities program to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. Please contact the Office of Disable Students Services at (804)524-5061.

Grading

The evaluation is based a few components listed as follows,

Component	Percentage
Attendance and participation	20%
On-time paper selection and approval	5%
On-time presentation slides submission	5%
Quality of presentation slides	20%
Quality of oral presentation	25%
How well questions are handled	5%
Quality and on-time submission of written reports and summaries	20%
Total	100%

Your final letter grade will be given as follows according to the percentage,

Percentage	Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

Important Dates

Monday, Aug. 15	University classes begin
Friday, Aug. 19	Last Day to Add/Drop classes
Monday, Sep. 5	Labor Day Holiday
Monday Sep. 26 – Friday Sep. 30	Midterm Exam
Monday Oct. 3 – Tuesday Oct. 4	Fall Break
Friday, Nov. 21	Last Day to Withdraw from classes
Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Sunday, Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Holiday
Monday, Nov. 28	Last day of classes
Tuesday, Nov. 29	Reading day
Friday, Nov. 30 – Monday, Dec. 5	Final Exam

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to revise this syllabus.