

Syllabus

CSC358 Advanced Topics

Open Source Development

Professor Leon Tabak

Block 2

September 24, 2018 to October 17, 2018

1 Description of our course

Participants in this course will improve and add to existing software. We will work collaboratively and gain experience managing a project. We will learn disciplines and tools that will make us an effective team. We will gain familiarity with agile development, test-driven development, and distributed version control. We will learn how to share, license, and publish our software. We will practice with methods for describing our designs and testing our products. We will acquaint ourselves with reasons for choosing the open source model and with successful open source projects.

2 Our meeting times and places

- My office is in Law 206C.
- You may call me in my office at (319) 895 4294.
- You may send me electronic mail at l.tabak@ieee.org.
- I will be in my office and available to meet with you Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.
- We will all meet together in the classroom in the mornings and in the laboratory in the afternoons.

	Where	When
Laboratory	Law Hall 113	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Classroom	Law Hall 121	1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

3 Textbooks

There is no textbook for this course.

I will ask you to read articles on the Internet. We will also find tutorials and references on the Internet.

4 Etiquette for the Classroom

Please show respect to your classmates, to me, and to the seriousness of our enterprise by exercising the following courtesies:

- Please give your attention to whomever is speaking. You cannot view unrelated pages on the Web and be part of our class' discussion at the same time.
- You learn from your classmates. Be generous in offering help to classmates in the laboratory. Take interest in your classmates' work. Encourage them. Compliment them for work that is well done. Give them a good audience when they stand at the front of the room to present their work. Show these courtesies to all of your classmates.
- Please do not interrupt the class by late entries or early departures. If you anticipate a need to be absent from all or part of one of our meetings, please notify me in advance of your anticipated absence.
- You may listen to music while working in the laboratory so long as you are still able to hear your name when called and you do not disturb neighbors.
- Please refrain from bringing food or drink into the classroom or laboratory. We can make reasonable exceptions for eating that is not noisy and foods that do not have strong smells.

Acceptable beverages and foods include water, tea, and granola bars. Bringing breakfast to class is not courteous.

Please clean up crumbs and spills. Please dispose of empty containers and leftovers.

- Please dress as you might for an employer in the software engineering industry.

Software engineers dress casually, but neatly. You do not have to purchase new clothes!

Please keep your shoes on. Wearing hoods, hats, or sunglasses (except when there is a medical reason for shielding the eyes) that hide your face is not courteous.

- Imagine that you are seeking employment. How will you present yourself to your prospective employer?

Imagine that you are now employed in a software engineering firm. How will you speak to your teammates, the head of your team, and your company's clients?

Imagine that your grandmother has purchased the company for which you work. She has joined you in the company's conference room to hear and see you walk through the code that you have written for the company (her company).

Are there some words that you will keep out of your vocabulary during this hour?

5 Policies

Cornell College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students. If you have a documented learning disability and will need any accommodation in this course, you *must* request the accommodation(s) from the instructor of the course and no later than the third day of the term. Additional information about the policies and procedures for accommodation of learning disabilities is available on [Cornell College's Web site](#).

Please also familiarize yourself with the college's statement on [academic honesty](#) and its [policies for dropping courses](#).

6 Goals

We will give special attention to three of Cornell College's [Educational Priorities and Outcomes](#):

- Communication—working in teams, you will seek an understanding of the needs of your clients. You will teach one another, negotiate goals and schedules, seek suggestions for the improvement of your own contributions, and offer direction to your teammates.
- Ethical Behavior—you will choose a license with which to publish the open source software you create, respect the licenses of the open source software that use in building your product, and credit all of your collaborators.
- Citizenship—in this project-oriented course you will strive to create useful products and make them available to people around the world.

7 Grades

You can earn the points for “Daily work” by arriving each day rested and prepared, by contributing to our discussions, and by showing steady progress on your projects. When you anticipate a need to be late, to leave early, or to be absent, please give me advance notice.

Each “Graded exercise” will include questions about topics that we cover together in reading and discussion. These questions might, for example, ask you to define terms, interpret a short section of code, or make a case in a few sentences for working in a recommended way.

Each “Graded exercise” will also ask you to present pieces of your developing project, in writing or orally.

A greater emphasis on collaboration will distinguish this course from others.

Experience presenting work to peers will be a central part of the course. Practice asking your teammates questions during their presentations, critiquing their decisions, and suggesting improvements to their code will also be an important part of your education during this term.

Activity	Points
Daily work	20
Graded exercise 1 (Friday, 28 September 2018)	20
Graded exercise 2 (Friday, 05 October 2018)	20
Graded exercise 3 (Friday, 12 October 2018)	20
+ Graded exercise 4 (Wednesday, 17 October 2018)	20
	100