

CPSC 2910

Lesson 5

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School of
COMPUTING

Syllabus Changes

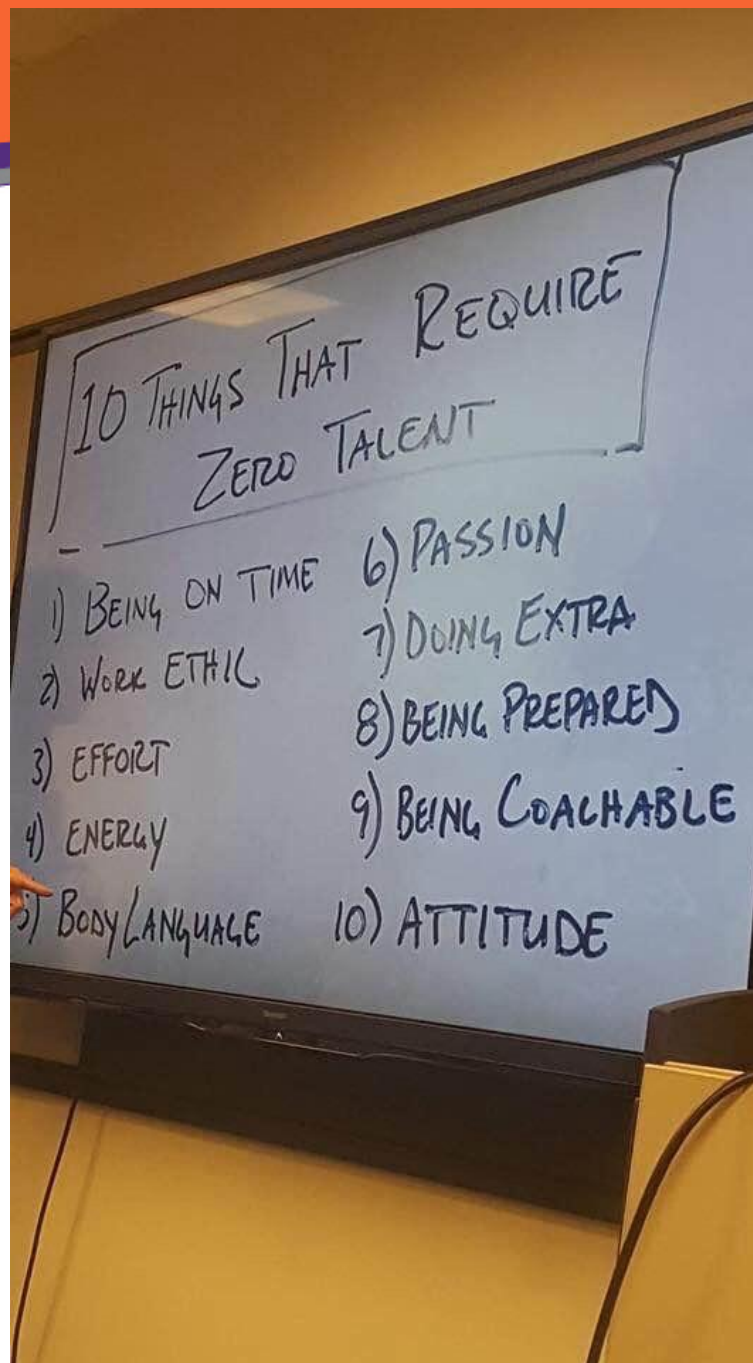
- ❖ Going to spend two weeks on career readiness:
 - ❖ Will require “Almost Final” resume/cover letters after next class and Final versions due in 2 weeks which should have few changes
 - ❖ Online presence and Top 5 company requirements also have an extra week
 - ❖ Will skip one of our chapters/homework assignments and move points to the extra version of the resume/cover letter
- ❖ Updated calendar and points posted in Canvas

Real World Readiness

- ❖ What do you want to do?
- ❖ Understanding strengths and weaknesses
- ❖ Resume and Cover Letter Guidance
- ❖ Researching companies
- ❖ Your online presence

What Do You Want to Do?

- ❖ I don't care – I just want to make money!
- ❖ Stay at school (graduate studies/PHD)
- ❖ According to a [January 2018 report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), the average person changes jobs ten to fifteen times (with an average of 12 job changes) during his or her career.
- ❖ Job considerations:
 - ❖ Build products, build tools, build internal systems?
 - ❖ Travel/Customer facing
 - ❖ Coding, coding, coding
 - ❖ Front end, back end, full stack
 - ❖ Business Analysis – talk to internal or external customers/user stories/specifications
 - ❖ Testing (coding is part of testing!)
 - ❖ DevOps (scripts, build tools, dev tools)
 - ❖ Systems/IT



10 THINGS THAT REQUIRE ZERO TALENT

- 1) BEING ON TIME
- 2) WORK ETHIC
- 3) EFFORT
- 4) ENERGY
- 5) BODY LANGUAGE
- 6) PASSION
- 7) DOING EXTRA
- 8) BEING PREPARED
- 9) BEING COACHABLE
- 10) ATTITUDE

Understanding Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths	Weaknesses
What was the most successful project/task I ever tackled, and what made me successful?	When faced with an overwhelming obstacle, what's most likely to cause me to give up?



Resumes

- ❖ Review CM examples
- ❖ OK if you don't have experience – you are in college!
- ❖ GPA only if higher than 3.0
- ❖ Github link is great!
- ❖ LinkedIn link is great too!
- ❖ Leverage your network (wait, I don't have one!)

Cover Letters

- ❖ Use to make a more “direct” connection with the company and introduce yourself
- ❖ If you already have a contact at the company be sure to mention (“Following up on meeting with ...
OR “Sandy Phillips, Comp Science intern, told me what a great company...”)



Cover Letter Example 1

Dear Sir/Madam,

Hope this letter finds you well. I would like to first take this opportunity to introduce myself as a student at the University of Southern California, pursuing M.S. degree in Computer Science. My expected graduation date is May of 2008. I am currently looking for intern/full time permanent positions with esteemed organizations like yours.

My curriculum comprised of courses like Database Systems, Analysis of Algorithms, Web Technologies, Software Engineering (under Prof. Barry Boehm), Networking, Specification and design of Graphical User Interface has assisted me to gain profound knowledge in the field of Computer Science.

Adapting to various work cultures, identifying and resolving bottlenecks and prioritizing have been striking features of my working style. In addition to the above, I strongly believe in learning and sharing my knowledge with my colleagues. "Knowledge parted is knowledge gained" has been my motto in life. I am keen to learn and am sharp at identifying and solving problems.

I am confident that my background and knowledge in the Information Technology arena coupled with my strong technical skills in software languages will prove an asset to your organization and add immediate value to your organization.

I have enclosed my resume and would appreciate an opportunity to talk with you. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Cordially,

Cover Letter Example 2

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am a Clemson university student majoring in Computer Science and am responding to the Software Developer internship listing for your company. I am applying for this role because I believe it will be a challenging position and will help myself grow as a software developer.

As a student, I am willing to put in time outside of class in order to learn and put myself ahead of other students. I have done a lot of research outside of class and am willing to put in time to learn material required for the internship opportunity. I believe that I have the foundational knowledge needed for computer science and am ready for the next step in order to grow as a software developer.

I am in the market for a position because I want to be able to gain experience in the field. As an undergraduate student, I want to be able to have first hand experience on what type of work programmers in your industry normally work. I believe this job position will be able to give me an opportunity to learn new and different skills as a programmer.

I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about my ability to fill this position. You can reach me at [REDACTED]. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to learning more about this position.

Researching Companies

- ❖ Why is it important?
- ❖ What do they do?
- ❖ Where are they located? Can you work remotely?
- ❖ What is in the news about them?
- ❖ Are they small, big, public, private, etc.?
- ❖ Do you have a connection there already?
- ❖ What languages/tech do they use?
- ❖ Glassdoor research

What's Important to You?

Go through the list of values below. Eliminate words that don't resonate with you and put a check mark next to the values that are important to you. If you have a value that's not on the list, add it.

Values

Accessibility	Courage	Empathy	Honesty	Originality	Speed
Accomplishment	Creativity	Enthusiasm	Humor	Passion	Spirituality
Accountability	Curiosity	Excellence	Imagination	Peace	Spontaneity
Accuracy	Dependability	Experience	Impact	Perfection	Stability
Adventure	Determination	Expertise	Independence	Power	Strength
Affection	Clarity	Fairness	Integrity	Prosperity	Success
Affluence	Comfort	Faith	Intelligence	Punctuality	Sympathy
Altruism	Commitment	Fame	Justice	Recognition	Teamwork
Ambition	Compassion	Family	Kindness	Relaxation	Understanding
Assertiveness	Completion	Fidelity	Knowledge	Reliability	Vision
Balance	Contentment	Flexibility	Leadership	Resourcefulness	Wealth
Bravery	Control	Fun	Learning	Respect	Winning
Calmness	Directness	Generosity	Love	Security	
Celebrity	Discipline	Grace	Loyalty	Sensitivity	
Challenge	Diversity	Growth	Mindfulness	Significance	
Charity	Efficiency	Health	Optimism	Sincerity	

Let's Research Some Companies

Career Fair info on the Clemson website:

https://career.sites.clemson.edu/career_fairs/student_info/

Online Presence

- ❖ Create a LinkedIn account with a picture
- ❖ What would I find if I did a search on you?

Next Class

Resume & Cover Letter: Based on guidelines provide in class, you will need to create and/or edit your own resume and write a cover letter – **submit second version (almost final) of both by EOD of our next class! We will use the next class for review for those who want to share.**

Career Fair Preparedness: The virtual career fair is Sept 29 and 30th. Review the companies attending the career fair and **pick the top five companies you are interested in talking to and why you picked them.** You will also provide an **assessment of your online presence and specify pros and cons of your online presence and a plan to improve.** Due dates online.

Career Fair info on the Clemson website:

https://career.sites.clemson.edu/career_fairs/student_info/