University of Pittsburgh

CS 1900/1950 Introduction

Course Requirements and Logistics

School of Computing and Information

Department of Computer Science

About the Instructor

- **Wonsun Ahn**
  - First name is pronounced *one-sun*
  - Or you can just call me Dr. Ahn (rhymes with *naan*)

- **Research Interest**
  - Computer architecture, Compilers, Quantum computing

Course Requirements

- Attend each class (3 strikes and you are out)

- Write a final paper on your work to the instructor

- Give a presentation on your work to your peers

- Do peer reviews of each other's talks on TopHat

- (CS 1950 only) send regular progress reports

Your paper is consumed by instructor

- ■ What I will be looking for:

1. Technical work commensurate to a capstone was done
2. Well organized paper with sections and subsections
   - Goals, implementation, and outcomes are clearly stated
   - Each section, paragraph, and sentence has clear focus
3. Whether you had any insurmountable difficulties
   - Purpose is to compile a "blacklist" for advising future students

- ■ For details, refer to:
  https://wonsunahn.github.io/Capstone_Spring2024/final_paper

Why give a talk in front of my peers?

1. To share experience with your peers
   - You worked on unique topics, ideas, products
   - You worked for a unique organization

2. To gain practice in giving a technical talk
   - Learn how to structure your ideas
   - Learn how to design slides effectively
   - Learn how to deliver your ideas impactfully

3. **NOT** to report on your internship to your instructor
   - That purpose is already fulfilled by your final report

Any experience is worth sharing

- **Your experiences may include…**
  - A small local company that is doing cool things:
    What is unique about working in that company?
  - A new interesting job category:
    How does it compare to SW developer? Did you like it?
  - Software development methodology:
    How did you feel about it? Did it increase productivity?
  - Challenges you faced (technical, interpersonal, organizational):
    How you did you resolve them? What did you learn?

- **Bad experiences are also worth learning from:
  What would you do differently next time?**

Before presentation date

- **Submit all slides to Canvas by Thursday 9 PM**
  - Preferred format: Powerpoint, PDF
  - Submit to the "Presentation Slides" link
  - Put title, name, and project on cover page
    (So your friends know who you are and where you worked)
  - Number your slides

- **Your slides will be ready for you next day on TopHat**

- **Practice out loud and time yourself**

During Presentation

- ~2 talks per day. 50 / 2 = 25 minutes per talk.

- 10-15 minutes: Presentation talk
  - Speaker: Present on TopHat using instructor's laptop (If using your own laptop, let me know ahead of time)

- 10 minutes: Q & A

- Keep your own time using your cell phone
  - I may have to cut you off if you go over 25 minutes

After Presentation

- **Audience:**
  - Submit TopHat review by midnight, same day
    - ➢ Give scores for Content, Organization, and Delivery
    - ➢ Freeform comments on the Feedback section

- **Speaker:**
  - Submit Final Paper by following Friday by midnight

You can be honest with your review

- Scores and feedback are anonymous
  - Only score averages will be posted to TopHat for presenter
  - Feedback is immediately visible, but names are hidden

- Scores and feedback do not impact final grade

- For 3 top scorers, there will be cash prizes:
  - 1st place - $100, 2nd place - $50, 3rd place - $25
  - Deposited into your PittFund$Me account

But be constructive with your review

- **Don't judge presenter on the work done**
  - Judge presenter on how the work was presented

- **Positive comments are as valuable as "negative" ones**
  - Important thing is to be specific with either
  - "I loved your talk" is not helpful beyond giving a warm feeling

- **A constructive comment does not:**
  - Humiliate your peer
  - Complain about how much time was wasted listening
  - Use wording that triggers an emotional response

TODO Action Item

- Make sure you are enrolled in TopHat

- Do the TopHat survey by this weekend

- Talk to your supervisor about what you can publicize
  - Any intellectual property issues?
  - Any confidentiality issues?
  - Note: you are not expected to publicize code ☺

- If your organization has any red tape, please start the process asap and let me know