

CSCI 400 Senior Seminar

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

Spring 2017

Instructor	Hui Chen, Ph.D.	Office Phone	(804)524-5428
Office	HM 302Sc	E-mail	hchen@vsu.edu
Office Hours	09:00 – 11:00 Monday 09:00 – 11:00 Wednesday 09:00 – 11:00 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, January 20 – Friday, April 28, 2017 HM 14S (14 class meetings excluding the final exam)

Group Study and Discussion

3:00 – 4:00 PM Friday, January 20 – Friday, April 28, 2017 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

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. 2008. *The Craft of Research*, Third Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-226-06566-3

Additional Resources

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 3–4 students.

Research Topics

The instructor will provide avenues where the research papers from which students choose papers to study and present to the class.

Individual Assignment

Student Oral Presentation

- Some in-class meetings will host student presentations on selected research papers.
- Every student is expected to make *two* oral presentations, each on an approved research paper.
- A student must select the two papers and have them approved by the instructor by *January 27*; otherwise, a late penalty will be applied to the student's grade.
- A student must submit the presentation slides to the instructor by 5PM the Wednesday of the week when the student is to make the presentation.
- Slides of a presentation must be at least 15 slides.
- Each student will have 3 minutes to set up her or his presentation. A student presentation will be 15 minutes followed by a 5-minute Q&A session.

Group Assignment

Writing Assignment and Submission

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

- Meeting log for each group meeting, and
- Summary of papers.

Students must follow writing guidelines provided by the instructor.

Meeting Logs

A group must submit meeting logs *weekly* for the meetings taken place between two submissions.

Summary of Paper

The instructor will assign paper summary assignment each week. Group members must take turn to lead the writing. 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 and 3rd draft revised by the other group member,*
3. *and final version agreed by all group members.*

Additional Assignments

The instructor will assign additional assignments on writing, oral presentation, research methods, and social aspects of computer science.

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	15%
Quality of oral presentation	20%
How well questions are handled	5%
Quality and on-time submission of written reports and summaries	20%
Additional Assignments	10%
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

Tuesday, Jan. 17	University Classes Begin
Friday, Jan. 20	Last Day to Add/Drop
Tuesday, Feb. 14	Assessment Day
Friday, Feb. 24	Last Day to file Graduation Application
Monday, Mar. 6	Midterm Exams Begin
Saturday, Mar. 11	Midterm Exams End
Sunday-Sunday, Mar. 12-19	Spring Break (No class)
Monday, Mar. 20	Midterm Grades are due in the System by Faculty
Wednesday, Mar. 22	Fall Registration begins
Wednesday, Apr. 12	Fall Registration ends
Friday, Apr. 22	Last Day to Withdraw from on-Campus Classes
Monday, May. 1	Last day of classes
Tuesday, May 2	Reading day
Wednesday, May. 3	Final Examinations begin
Monday, May. 8	Final Examinations end
Tuesday, May. 9	Senior Grades are due in the System
Friday, May. 12	Final Grades are due in the System
Saturday, May. 13	Commencement Exercises

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to revise this syllabus.