Course Syllabus

CS 4800  Individual Research Projects
Summer Semester 2014

Instructor  Drew Weidman
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Classroom  Online

Days and Time  Online

Texts  None

Goal  An approved individual project, program, system, or research project for a CS major only. Credit: 1-4 hours. Prerequisite: Approval by instructor.
1 Credit hour = 75 total hours or more towards the project (5 hrs/wk)
2 Credit hours = 150 total hours or more towards the project (10 hrs/wk)
3 Credit hours = 225 total hours or more towards the project (15 hrs/wk)
4 Credit hours = 300 total hours or more towards the project (20 hrs/wk)
You may not register for this course without prior approval (the proposal process described in this package). After package approval, the pre-requisites will be lifted, but the student must still register themselves.

Purpose of Course  To provide CS majors with the opportunity of suggesting and performing some worthwhile activity which will enhance or maintain his/her Computer Science skills in an area of his/her choice.

Approval by Instructor  After determining what he/she desires to do, the student must prepare a written proposal of his/her project or research as outlined below, and submit it to the current instructor of the CS 2800/4800 course. The proposal will then be evaluated by the faculty who will work with the student to decide upon acceptable activities and appropriate credit.
The Proposal

The proposal should consist of the following:
1. Demographic data: The student's name, address, telephone number, email address, major emphasis and minor (if applicable), W#, class (2800 or 4800) and number of credit hours (see above).
2. Project description: What does the student intend to do? Provide detail!
3. Justification: Why does the student want to do what is proposed and what rationale can be given for why it ought to be done?
4. Method: How does the student propose to accomplish the task, and how long will it take?
5. Resources: What help, equipment, etc., will the student require to accomplish the task?
6. Evaluation: How should the student's effort be evaluated and graded? What mileposts have been established? What products or demonstrations can be expected from the project?
7. Milestones: What specific tasks will be targeted for completion by each Progress Report due date.

Criteria for Faculty Evaluation

The proposal will be evaluated by the faculty against the following criteria:
1. Is it clear what the student proposes to do?
2. Is the project a reasonable CS activity? Can the project reasonably meet the expressed needs and rationale of the student?
3. Can the project be completed in the time estimated by the student?
4. Is the method proposed adequate to the accomplishment of the project?
5. What resources are available to assist the student?
6. Can the student's progress be adequately monitored and evaluated?
7. Is the requested credit appropriate to the task?
8. What suggestions can the faculty make that might be helpful to the student?

Implementation

After receiving faculty approval, the student will enroll in the course for the approved credit, implement the approved project, meet his/her milestone commitments, and submit all required data for evaluation.

Due Dates

The student will submit written (typed) progress reports (including supporting data, charts, URLs, etc.) according to the following schedule:
Final Proposal No later than May 19th (2nd week) – 10%
Progress Report #1 No later than June 2nd (4th week) – 10%
Progress Report #2 No later than Jun 23rd (7th week) – 10%
Progress Report #3 No later than Jul 14th (10th week) – 10%
Progress Report #4 No later than Aug 4th (12th week) – 10%
Final Research/Project Aug 13th (last week) – 50%
And Demo (if applicable)