

CSE 501

Introduction to Graduate Study in Computer Science and Engineering

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http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/faculty/dimitrio/courses/cse501_f20/index.html

Instructor

<http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/faculty/dimitrio/>

- Associate Professor, CSE
- Research interests: experimental wireless/mobile networks and systems
- Office: 311 Davis Hall
- Office hours: Wednesday 2:00-3:00 (same Zoom link, email me first), or by appointment (use email)
- Email: dimitrio@buffalo.edu

Time and Location

- Tuesday/Thursday, 2:20-3:35 PM, online
 - Typically we will be meeting only once a week, mostly on Tuesdays
 - Check the schedule online
- Department colloquia
 - Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-5:00 PM, Davis 338A/Davis 113A
 - Highly recommended to attend
 - Required for assignments (more later)

Important URLs

- Zoom meeting room

<https://buffalo.zoom.us/j/96341485876?pwd=UG1RYzJIUUR3RIUwRlIOTWsvMnFPdz09>

- Course website (schedule, slides, syllabus)

http://www.cse.buffalo.edu/faculty/dimitrio/courses/cse501_f20/index.html

- Piazza (questions, discussions, announcements)

<https://piazza.com/buffalo/fall2020/cse501/home>

Textbooks

- Required textbook
 - None
- Recommended textbook
 - The Elements of Style, 4th edition, Strunk and White
 - Handbook of Writing for the Mathematical Sciences, 2nd edition, Nicholas Higham

Course Overview I

- Guidance about graduate studies in CSE for incoming PhD students
 - Required for all new PhD students
- Topics
 - Academic integrity
 - Nature of research
 - Good teaching and TA skills
 - Writing skills
 - Presentation skills
 - Other (your suggestions...)

Class Format

- Invited presentations
 - Faculty presentations
 - Senior PhD student presentations
- Faculty panels
- Class discussions
- Written assignments
- Oral presentations

Invited Presentations

- Faculty presentations
 - 30-min research talks, 5-min elevator pitch talks
 - Get to know what our faculty do
 - Useful especially if you are looking for an advisor
 - Other topics
 - Academic integrity, research ethics, how to do research
- Senior PhD student presentations
 - About their research/labs/challenges
 - Different perspective, you can ask questions you might not want to ask to faculty
 - I will leave the room at the end

Faculty Panels

- Will try to organize different panels
 - Teaching faculty
 - How to do research
 - ...
 - Depends on faculty availability

Class Discussions

- Various topics
- I will ask for suggestions

Course Workload

- Attendance
- Written reports
- In-class oral presentation

Attendance

- Regular attendance is required
- Come to class **on time!**
- Sign-up at the beginning of class
- To get an **S grade**, you need to attend at least **12 classes**

Written Reports I

- 1-page report of any talk you attended in the past 1 month (including departmental colloquia)
- Format on the website
 1. Overview of the talk
 - ✓ Title, speaker, time and date, summary of the content
 2. What you liked about the talk
 - ✓ Technical content
 - ✓ Presentation
 - ✓ Other
 3. How could the talk have been improved?
 - ✓ Things that you did not like

Written Reports II

- Email the reports to me by **23:59** on the following dates:
 - September 30: Talks in August/September
 - November 4: Talks in October
 - December 2: Talks in November
- PDF only – other formats will not be accepted!
- Late reports will not be accepted!
- Will post best 2-3 reports every time online
- **NO PLAGIARISM!!!!!!**

Report Grading

- 2 points = well written
- 1.5 points = only minor issues
- 1 point = a reasonable attempt
- 0.5 points = needs more effort
- 0 points = no submission or no effort
- To get an **S grade**, you need a total of **3 points**

Oral Presentations

- 10-min presentation on a technical topic of your choice
 - CSE related
 - 7-8 min talk + 2-3 min Q&A
- During the last two lectures
 - December 8 and 10
- Prepare power point/pdf slides

Presentation Grading

- 2 points = good presentation
- 1.5 points = only minor issues
- 1 point = a reasonable attempt
- 0.5 points = needs more effort
- 0 points = no presentation or no effort
- To get an **S grade**, you need **1 point**

Class Participation

- Very important!!!
- Attend classes, participate in discussions (in class and online), express your opinion, ask questions

Academic Integrity

- **No tolerance on cheating/plagiarism!!!**
 - All academic integrity violation cases will be reported to the department, school, and university, and recorded
 - **U grade and loss of TA support!**
 - Consult the University Statements on Academic Integrity:
<https://engineering.buffalo.edu/computer-science-engineering/information-for-students/policies/academic-integrity.html>
- Students who share the work with others are as responsible for academic dishonesty as those receiving the material

Academic Integrity II

- Attendance
 - Signing up on behalf of other students who are not in class is an **academic integrity violation**
- Presentations
 - You can use **any** material found online (except from past CSE 501 offerings) as long as you **acknowledge** the source
 - E.g., in your last slide: “Many slides were borrowed from ...”, or use footnotes in each slide
- Reports
 - You **cannot** use any online material!
 - You have to write them individually

Questions?