

Course Syllabus - Fall 2006

CS 499 Senior Capstone (Syllabus version 1.0, as published to class on 8/25/06)

Course Instructor	Tony Skjellum Email: tony@cis.uab.edu Office: CH 145 Phone: 205-934-8657 (use e-mail whenever possible) Office Hours: Thursday and Friday 3:30 PM - 05:00 PM. Other times by appointment only.
Course Session	Friday 3:00-3:50 PM Room CH 145
Course Homepage	http://www.cis.uab.edu/fall06/cs499
Prerequisite	Senior standing.
Teaching Assistant	None.
Description	Faculty and guest lecturers will hold class each week. The Major Field Test Examination is taken as a required part of the course. One hour lecture.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A review of key concepts in the undergraduate level study of computer science. All professors in the department participate in giving at least one lecture each (under normal circumstances). Some may lecture more than once.2. A discussion of various aspects of Computer Ethics.3. Oral and written communication/presentation about a CS topic is required.
Textbook	Computers, Ethics, and Society: Ermann and Shauf, Oxford, ISBN 0-19-514302-7, 2003.

Reference

None.

Grading Policy

Pass/Fail.

The Major Field Test is a requirement, but undergraduates don't have to get a specific grade on it to pass CS 499. It is a learning outcomes measurement.

You must have no more than three unexcused absences (excluding excused absences) starting from August 25, 2006. You must take the Major Field Test if you have not already done so to pass the class. Anyone failing to take the Major Field Test will receive an Incomplete if they would otherwise have passed. You must turn in seven or more half-page (100-150 word) summaries of CS499 lectures you have attended (or departmental lectures, with instructor's permission to substitute). You must turn in one two-page essay about computer ethics based on readings. These are all graded pass/fail. You must get a passing grade on seven half-page summaries and on the two-page essay to pass the class.

Late Submission

1. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due date. Any assignment turned in after this deadline is considered late. Late assignments will lose 10% for every 24-hour period, up to a maximum of 50% (weekends and holidays count as one 24-hour period). Any assignment submitted one week after the due date will receive a score of zero.
2. Essays will be due to the instructor, via e-mail or in writing, no later than one week after the lecture is given. The two-page ethics essay will be due on the last day of class.
2. **All assignments must be turned in even if they are late to pass this course.** Failure to submit any assignments will result in a grade of 'F' for the course.

Class Attendance

1. Attendance is mandatory for this course. If you know you will be absent for a legitimate reason, let the instructor know. If you are sick bring a doctor's excuse or a written university excuse to resolve the absences. An absence has to be resolved as soon as possible - otherwise it will not be treated as an excused absence.
2. Students auditing this course are expected to attend the lectures. Auditing students with more than three unexcused absences will receive a failing grade.
3. There will be NO exams.

4. The Major Field Test is Saturday November 8, from 10am-12n. You must preregister with John Faulkner, do so by September 29, 2006. It is free.

Academic Honesty

Any student who violates the university's academic honesty policy will be reported for academic discipline. All university and department policies related to students are included here by implication.

Note that specific instructions that permit limited, appropriate collaboration and co-mentoring while disallowing other collaboration will be provided with each homework. Read the instructions you are given and be responsible for following the rules.

Add/Drop Policy

1. A student can drop the course through August 29, 2006.
2. A student can add the course through August 30, 2006.
3. A student can withdraw with a "W" by October 23, 2006. (Undergraduate)
4. A student can withdraw with a "W" by December 6, 2006. (Graduate)
5. For more details about add/drop policies check with Registration/Academic Records.

E-mail

Every student will be required to use his/her official email address that is *blazerid@uab.edu*. New students must login and configure their email addresses. For more details on obtaining *blazerid* and configuring email please see: <http://www.uab.edu/blazerid>. All email communications will be made using this address. Additional instructions or announcements will be sent by e-mail, so check your mail often. Also check the course webpage and the discussion forum for up-to-date information and announcements. Instructor will check email frequently, so e-mail is often the best way to contact the instructor.

**Tentative Schedule
(i.e., subject to
change, check the
website for updates)**

See web site for list of lectures and topics.

Last Updated: August 25, 2006
by Anthony Skjellum

Course Homepage: <http://www.cis.uab.edu/cs499>

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