CS 4100 - Senior Seminar
Fall 2004

Instructor
Dr. Jay Fenwick
107-E CAP Bldg.
262-2708
jbf@cs.appstate.edu
Office Hours: Tu:9-11, W:2-5, Th:9-2

Meeting Sessions
Section 101: Tue 11-12:15
243 CAP Bldg.
Section 102: TBA
444 CAP Bldg.

About the Course
This course is required for all computer science senior students. It is designed to certify that computer science students have the necessary written and verbal communication skills for entering the job market or graduate school. **This certification is required for graduation and is obtained only by obtaining a grade of C or better in this course.**

This course is also designed to provide an opportunity to examine ethical and topical issues in our field.

Texts

Academic Integrity
Unless specifically indicated, all assignments are expected to be completed by each student individually. Violations will be handled as specified in the ASU Academic Integrity Policy.

Tentative Topics and Schedule
Critical thinking skills
Career Counseling
Professional codes of behavior
Ethical case studies
Computer science writing
Presentation skills

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Enhancement</th>
<th>Resume</th>
<th>5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 Career Action Days Events</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking</td>
<td>Class discussions</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Weekly assignments</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance is expected. Because the class only meets once per week, absences are significant. Each unexcused absence deducts six points from a student’s course grade. People with special attendance-related issues, such as military or athletic or job-searching, must speak with instructor in advance.

The career enhancement components (resume and Career Action Days events) will be required early in the term.
Each week a writing assignment is due. Each student must write an approximately 500 word report on the semester topic (to be announced). The report is to summarize an article from a reputable source, provide technical critique of the article (both grammatical and logical), and provide a personal reflection. A sample report will be given. Each weekly report must be on a different article on the same topic. In addition, each student must also respond to two other student summaries. This response is to be approximately 250 words long.

All three writings must be complete HTML files emailed to your instructor as attachments. The files should also be placed into the 4100 directory of your cs account (in case of email problems). All writings will be linked from the instructor’s course website.

The final writing assignment will be an article for a local newspaper.

Approximately half of the weekly class sessions will be devoted to discussion of the semester topic, in particular to the student summaries and responses. Students will be expected to provide at least one 10 minute oral presentation of an article summary.

The final exam period will be used for the final speaking presentations.

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>[93-100]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>[90-93)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>[87-90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>[83-87)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>[80-83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>[77-80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>[70-77)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because a grade lower than C does not certify the student, any such grade will require the student to retake the course; thus, any such grade is considered a failing grade of F.