Graduate Project and Technical Report COSC 5395.001  
School of Engineering and Computer Science  
Spring 2018

A. COURSE INFORMATION

Course number/section: COSC 5395.001  
Class meeting time: MW 3:30 to 5:20 PM  
Class location: TBD  
Course Website: http://faculty.tamucc.edu/~akatangur/sp18/COSC5395

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Ajay K Katangur  
Office location: CI 340  
Office hours: MW 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM, T 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Telephone: 361-825-2478  
e-mail: ajay dot katangur at tamucc dot edu  
Appointments: By e-mail

C. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog Course Description:
An applied research project in computing from problem definition to implementation in an area of particular interest to the student that relates to the course of study. Offered on credit/no-credit basis only, with grade of IP until completed. Credit will not be recorded until technical report is accepted by the Graduate Project Committee.

D. PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

Prerequisites: COSC 5370  
Corequisites: none

E. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES

Required Textbook(s): Master of Science in Computer Science Graduate Project Proposal and Technical Report Guidelines, Department of Computing Sciences, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

Optional Textbook(s) or Other References:
- The Elements of Style, William Strunk and E.B White, Allyn and Bacon
- A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Kate L. Turabian, The University of Chicago Press

Supplies
None

F. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

It is intended that each successful student will accomplish the tasks that follow.
1. Perform the research required to complete, document and present a plan/proposal for completing the graduate project. The approved proposal will be submitted to the course instructor.
2. Develop a project final report within the time constraints of the course that is acceptable to the student’s project chairperson and other committee members.
3. Successfully present/defend the project results to the project committee and other interested parties. The approved final report must be submitted to the Computer Science Department Office.

G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Questions and discussion, written reports

H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

This course is offered as a “credit” (CR) or “no credit” (NC) course only with a grade of “in progress” (IP) until the graduate project is completed. In order to receive credit for this course the student is expected to adhere to the general procedures which follow.

• Make submissions in a timely manner using the schedule and methods described herein. In addition, all submissions should follow the standards set by the Departmental guideline document and must be correct with regard to spelling, grammar, punctuation, and appearance.
• Produce a project proposal and a final report that are acceptable to the student’s project committee. The approved proposal document will be filed with the course instructor, while the final report is filed with the Computer Science Departmental Office.
• Avoid all forms of academic dishonesty as defined in the current University catalogue.
• Successfully complete presentations of the proposal and the final report.

I. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE

We will proceed guided by the schedule that follows. Please note that many activities will be scheduled during the course of the semester, and depend on the number of students enrolled, and other factors, so dates on this schedule are only approximate.
For your convenience a Summary of all necessary tasks is included immediately after the schedule.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>General Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>General Introduction, Introduction to LaTeX</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>General Introduction, <strong>Submit: (to the course instructor)</strong> A document skeleton (template), that includes a potential project abstract and the <strong>Background and Rational</strong> Section (as discussed in class and in the Departmental guideline document)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Work on project proposals, <strong>Start proposal submissions:</strong> Submit a 5-10 page (excluding cover sheet, table of contents, etc.) project proposal to the project chairperson, and the cosc5395 course instructor.</td>
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| Week 5 | **Oral proposal presentations:**  
  - 10 minutes PowerPoint presentation plus 10 minutes for questions  
  - Presentation dates will be assigned by the COSC5395 course instructor,  
  - A schedule will be distributed |
| Week 6 | Discuss your work and code related to the project |
| Week 7 | Discuss your work and code related to the project  
  Last day to submit the approved proposal document, signed by the project committee to the course instructor if you plan to graduate this semester.  
  **A project defense will not be scheduled until a properly approved proposal is filed.** |
| Week 8 | Discuss your work and code related to the project |
| Week 9 | **Spring Break** |
| Week 10 | Discuss your work and code related to the project |
| Week 11 | Discuss your work and code related to the project and other sections of the final report |
| Week 12 | Discuss your code and draft final report |
| Week 13 | Finish final report  
Start to make final report submissions using the individualized defense opportunity schedule:  
- The completed project report to your chairperson at least two weeks prior to your defense date  
- The completed project final report to the other committee member at least one week prior to your defense date |
| --- | --- |
| Week 14 | Finish final report  
Start oral project defenses:  
- 25 minutes PowerPoint presentation plus 10 minutes for questions  
- Presentation dates will be assigned by the COSC5395 course instructor  
- A schedule will be distributed |
| Week 15 | Oral project defenses continue |
| Week 16 | Oral project defenses continue |
| May 7, 2018 | **Last day to Submit:**  
The final, bound copy of the project report (with any required changes approved by the committee chairperson) to the Departmental Office no later than the close of business on the day of the COSC5395 final examination. This submission must include an electronic copy of all required items. |

**Summary of course activities:**
1. Submit partial proposal to COSC 5395 course instructor.
2. Submit completed proposal to committee members prior to your proposal presentation.
3. Schedule proposal presentation in conjunction with the COSC 5395 course instructor.
4. Make proposal presentation.
5. Have proposal document approved by your project committee.
6. Give approved proposal document to COSC 5395 course instructor.
7. Schedule defense presentation in conjunction with the project committee members.
8. Give final report to chairperson at least 2 weeks prior to defense date.
9. Give final report to entire committee at least 1 week prior to defense date.
10. Give defense presentation.
11. Make document changes and get them approved, as required.
12. Deliver bound copy to Computer Science Department office, and to committee members, as requested.

Note: Changes in this course schedule may be necessary and will be announced to the class by the Instructor. The assignments and exams shown are directly related to the Student Learning
Outcomes described in Section F.

J. COURSE POLICIES

Course Syllabus: We will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays. You are responsible for all the material presented in class.

Exams: No exams

Missed Exam: No exams

Academic Honesty Policy: You are expected to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty as defined in Catalog. In addition, students are expected to behave in an ethical manner in all class activities. If you feel uncertain about a particular activity, please speak to me BEFORE problems arise. All work submitted must be the student's own work. Any kind of plagiarism will not be tolerated. The Dean of Students office will be notified if there is any Plagiarism detected in the student’s work submitted.

Attendance: You must attend all classes. You are responsible for any materials covered or handed out or announcements made in your absence. Records of your attendance will be maintained and reported to the university.

Absence from class: Students are responsible for all materials covered in class and assigned. Should a student be absent from class, it is his/her responsibility to get the notes, etc. for that missed class.

Cell Phone Use: Cell phones and pagers must be turned off during class.

Laptop Use
Laptops, Tablets cannot be used in the class.

Food in Class
No food in the class or labs.

Student Security Statement: Please read the Student Security Statement.
plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

- **Classroom/Professional Behavior**
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

- **Statement of Civility**
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

- **Deadline for Dropping a Course with a Grade of W (University)**
  The grade of W will be assigned to any student officially dropping a course. Please consult with the instructor before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, visit the Office of the University Registrar for the Course Drop Form that must submitted. No student is eligible to receive a W without completing the official drop process by this deadline. Please consult the Academic Calendar (http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/) for the last day to drop a course.

- **Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering)**
  As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at
http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html, and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage at http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the Office of the Provost.

- Disability Services
  The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call (361) 825-5816 or visit Disability Services in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/

- Statement of Academic Continuity
  In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

L. OTHER INFORMATION

- Academic Advising
  The College of Science & Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. Meetings are by appointment only; advisors do not take walk-ins. Please call or stop by the Advising Center to check availability and schedule an appointment. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Center for Instruction 350 or can be reached at (361) 825-3928.

M. GENERAL DISCLAIMER

The course instructor reserves the right to modify the information, schedule, assignments, deadlines, and course policies in this syllabus if and when necessary. Changes will be
announced in a timely manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.