CSC 395/500 Research Colloquium (Online)
Spring 2020

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Office Hours via Zoom: Mon 4:45-5:45; Wed 2:00-3:00 & 4:45-5:45
Course Website: http://D2L.depaul.edu

Course Description

The research colloquium consists of talks by a variety of speakers including faculty, students, and guests from the academic and business communities. The lectures feature creative and scholarly works that encompass the disciplines and areas of interest of the College of Computing and Digital Media. Student evaluation is based on an online journal with reflections on each of the presentations. CSC 500 students are required to submit two extended reflections, out of the 10 total reflections. The educational objectives are to expose students to creative and scholarly research, and to engage students in the thought process of identifying and solving challenging research problems.

Prerequisites

(CSC 321 or CSC 355 or CSC 376) and (WRD 204) for CSC 395.
None for CSC 500.

Textbooks

None.

Attendance

The course will be conducted online. Every Friday, by 1 PM, the slides and recording of a talk by a speaker will be made available on D2L.

Assignments & Grading

- **Grading for CSC 395**
  Your final grade will be based on your reflections on each of the presentations during the quarter. You should upload your reflections on D2L under the "Submissions" tab. A reflection template document is provided, which you must use and adhere to its format, when writing your reflections. Each reflection is due within a week of the corresponding presentation (by 11:59 PM on the next Friday). Information about the reflections is given at the end of this section. Each reflection is worth 10% of the final grade.

- **Grading for CSC 500**
  Your final grade will be based on your reflections on each of the presentations during the quarter. Two out of the 10 total reflections have to be extended reflections. You should upload your reflections, including the extended reflections, on D2L under the "Submissions" tab. Reflection template documents, for both standard and extended reflections, are provided, which you must use and adhere to their formats when writing your reflections. Each reflection, including the extended reflections, is due within a week of the corresponding presentation (by 11:59 PM on the next Friday). Each of the 10 reflections, including the two extended reflections, is worth 10% of the final grade. Information about the reflections and the extended reflections is given at the end of this section.

Reflections. Template files that you must use for both the standard and extended reflections are posted on D2L. Reflections should be the equivalent of one full page (single-spaced), and should discuss what you saw. These are graded on how well they identify the research components, evaluate the talk, and connect to your own experience. A detailed grading rubric is available on D2L as a separate document. All reflections should be written using an informative and mostly formal tone, and expect that you are addressing a smart and well-read audience, but one which may not know specific details or have the relevant background knowledge about the talk you heard. Each reflection should consist of three labeled sections as follows:

- **Summary.** Briefly identify the speaker(s) and the overall topic of the talk. Briefly identify the research question(s) and outcomes/conclusions. Summarize important ideas that were presented. This section should

also include what, for you, were the "take-aways" or primary contributions of the talk.

- **Evaluation.** Evaluate what you saw using concepts and ideas you have learned in other courses you have taken or in other research-related experience. What did you learn from the talk? What wasn't clear to you?

- **Connections.** Draw connections between what you learned from the talk and your personal research interests or work/studies. In what ways might your work/studies benefit from what you saw? Many of the talks you will hear won't be in your area of research or primary interest. However, you should always be able to find something relevant and useful to your work! For example, you can discuss whether the methods they used to explore the research questions could apply to something in your area.

Extended Reflections (for CSC 500 students only). You need to submit two extended reflections. You can choose any two of the presentations and write extended reflections on. Extended reflections should also summarize and discuss the talk as in the reflections, but should also integrate with that the same types of information from one or more related research papers, either from the links on the course homepage or from related work that you locate yourself. Extended reflections should be at least the equivalent of two full pages (single-spaced). Include a list of references for the paper or papers you consult. Whenever you mention specific information from one of the papers, include proper citations to those references. Copied text may be included only if it constitutes a small portion of the reflection, if it is clearly indicated by quotation marks, and if it is preceded or followed by a citation (brief pointer to the source in the reference list). These are graded on how well they identify the research components, evaluate the talk, and connect to your own experience.

Final grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

90–100 = A   80–89 = B   70–79 = C   60–69 = D
< 60 = F

Plagiarism

All assignments must be done on **YOUR OWN**. In particular, plagiarism is

strictly forbidden. Scholastic dishonesty includes acquiring answers from any unauthorized source, working with another person except when permitted by the instructor, providing answers when not specifically authorized to do so. Disciplinary actions range from grade penalty to expulsion. Please refer to the school policy on plagiarism for more specific details.

Course Evaluation: School Policy

Course and instructor evaluations are critical for maintaining and improving course quality. Please complete the evaluations at the end of the quarter.