

# CS 385: Computing Professions, Fall 2017

Links: [[Course Home](#)] [[Schedule](#)] [[Moodle](#)]

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<b>Instructor</b>	<a href="#">Dr. Suzanne Rivoire</a>
<b>Meeting times</b>	Tu 12:05–12:55 PM, Zinfandel 1000A
<b>Drop-in office hours</b>	MoWe 1–1:45 PM MoWe 4–5 PM <i>Office hours are in Darwin 116D. Please knock if the door to 116 is closed.</i>
<b>Textbook</b>	None!
<b>Prerequisites</b>	Grade of C- or better in CS 215, or consent of instructor.

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## Course Goals

The major goals of this course are for you to

1. Practice the major components of the technical job application process and interview:
  - Researching companies
  - Describing yourself and your projects
  - Answering coding questions
2. Create a resume that presents your accomplishments in the best light for entry-level software engineering jobs
3. Find information on graduate programs in CS-related fields, and tentatively decide whether to consider this option
4. Describe one or more major ethical issues in computing professions

## Consolidated Syllabus

You may download the course description and schedule in a consolidated pdf:  
[http://rivoire.cs.sonoma.edu/cs385/syllabus\\_consolidated.pdf](http://rivoire.cs.sonoma.edu/cs385/syllabus_consolidated.pdf)

## Coursework and Grading

### *Class Activities*

### *Pre- and Post-class Activities*

Each class will have a pre-class activity, a post-class activity, or both, to be submitted on Moodle. Most of these activities will take one of the following forms:

- Reflection on a topic
- Web research on a topic
- Working on your resume

If you're interested in pursuing a career in this field, these are almost all things you'll end up doing anyway.

Most of these activities will be graded as follows. On a 30-point scale (multiply by 2 for activities worth 60 points), you will earn up to 10 points based on whether you have completed the requirements. These 0-10 points will be multiplied by a scaling factor based on the quality of your work:

<b>Scaling factor</b>	<b>Description</b>
x 1	Perfunctory: the bare minimum of content is present
x 2	Fair: sincere attempt to address the assignment, with serious flaws in execution and/or sloppy presentation
x 3	Thoughtful: content is well chosen and presented, with personal insight and reflection (where applicable)

"Thoughtful" doesn't mean long! It just means that you've put in the time to put together a considered response to the assignment.

### *In-class Activities*

You'll be assigned a group of 6 students for in-class activities, with a few opportunities to shuffle groups throughout the semester. Your in-class activities will consist largely of discussions and peer critiques with your group members. You'll get full credit for these activities as long as you attend the entire class session (don't be late!) and actively participate with your group.

### *Grading Policies*

#### *Grade breakdown*

Your grade for each class will be split into two components:

Pre- and post-class activities	60%
In-class participation	40%

If a class has both a pre- and post-activity, they will be equally weighted.

There are 15 required weekly assignments. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving and the final exam time slot will have optional make-up assignments.

#### *Cutoffs for letter grades (after rounding)*

93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0
A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

#### *Late policy*

No late work will be accepted.

#### *Collaboration Policy*

The work in this class is specific to you, so it would be completely counterproductive and bizarre to cheat. But for completeness:

The work you turn in must be your work. If you have received significant assistance from another person, you should document the extent of that assistance. Directly copying part or all of someone else's work (including publicly available work on the internet) is academic dishonesty.

### *Penalties for Academic Dishonesty*

Academic dishonesty will be severely penalized; at a *minimum*, you will receive a grade of 0 on the assignment. For more information, see SSU's cheating and plagiarism policy ([http://www.sonoma.edu/UAffairs/policies/cheating\\_plagiarism.htm](http://www.sonoma.edu/UAffairs/policies/cheating_plagiarism.htm)) and the Dispute Resolution Board website (<http://www.sonoma.edu/senate/committees/drbd/drbd.html>).

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## **Course and University Resources**

### **Online Resources**

#### *Website*

- The course homepage is <http://rivoire.cs.sonoma.edu/cs385/>.
- The schedule page (<http://rivoire.cs.sonoma.edu/cs385/schedule.html>) will be regularly updated with links to assignments.

#### *Moodle Gradebook*

The course gradebook will be kept on Moodle (<http://moodle.sonoma.edu>) so that you can check your grades and compute your average at any time. Grades will be posted to Moodle shortly after assignments are returned.

#### *Email List*

Course announcements will be sent to your SSU email address, so you should check your email frequently.

### **University Resources**

#### *Disability Accommodations*

If you are a student with a disability and you think you may require accommodations, please register with the campus office of Disability Services for Students (DSS), located in Salazar Hall - Room 1049, Phone: (707) 664-2677, TTY/TDD: (707) 664-2958. DSS will provide you with written confirmation of your verified disability and authorize recommended accommodations. This authorization must be presented to the instructor before any accommodations can be made. Visit <http://www.sonoma.edu/dss> for more information.

#### *University Policies*

There are important University policies that you should be aware of, such as the add/drop policy, cheating and plagiarism policy, grade appeal procedures, accommodations for students with disabilities, and the diversity vision statement. Go to this URL to find them: <http://www.sonoma.edu/uaffairs/policies/studentinfo.shtml>.

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## Course Schedule

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All schedule information is tentative. The most recent version is online at <http://rivoire.cs.sonoma.edu/cs385/schedule.html>.

	Topic	Pre-class	Post-class
<b>Week 1</b> Aug. 22	Course introduction	n/a	Group survey (due at end of class)
<b>Week 2</b> Aug. 29	Internships: discussion	Initial resume draft (content only)	New resume draft (style)
<b>Week 3</b> Sep. 5	Resume peer critiques	New resume draft	Summary of critiques
<b>Week 4</b> Sep. 12	Interview process overview	New resume draft	Research on a tech company
<b>Week 5</b> Sep. 19	Software engineering panel	Read bios and submit a question	Reflection about panel
<b>Week 6</b> Sep. 26	Graduate school	Research a graduate program	Reflections on graduate program
<b>Week 7</b> Oct. 3	Coding interviews	Coding interview research	Reflection; group feedback
<b>Weeks 8-10</b> Oct. 10, 17, 24	Coding interview practice	n/a	Critiques of self and peers
<b>Week 11</b> Oct. 31	Nontechnical interview questions	Description of your most impressive project	Quick answers to common questions
<b>Weeks 12, 13</b> Nov. 7, 14	Non-technical interview practice	n/a	Critiques of self and peers
<b>Week 14</b> Nov. 21	Make-up: Technical presentations	n/a	Critiques
<b>Week 15</b> Nov. 28	Ethical issues	Reading questions	TBD
<b>Week 16</b> Dec. 5	Diversity and inclusion	Reading question	Feedback on class