



Channel Islands  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

# COMP 599: Graduate Seminar

Fall 2022

Location: SIE 1212

Instructor: Jason Isaacs

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Web: [jisaacs.com](http://jisaacs.com)

Office Hours: Solano Hall 2176

Office Hours: Tues 4:00pm – 6pm or by appointment

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## Course Description:

Prerequisites: Admission to the Computer Science or Mathematics Graduate Program

Oral presentations of current advancements in the field, reports on students' research, master thesis, and projects.

## Student Learning Outcomes

By the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Research arbitrary topics in Computer Science or related fields as well as in application areas
- Prepare illustrative reports documenting your research
- Present the results of the research orally using presentation tools
- Argue and defend the results of your research

## Course Outline:

1. Introduction and Getting Started
2. Reading and Reviewing
3. Hypotheses, Questions, and Evidence
4. Writing a Paper
5. Good Style and Style Specifics
6. Punctuation
7. Presentations
8. Mathematics
9. Algorithms
10. Graphs, Figures, and Tables
11. Other Professional Writing

12. Editing
13. Experimentation
14. Statistical Principles
15. Ethics

## Learning Environment:

This class will be conducted completely in-person. Primarily our in-person class time will be dedicated to discussions and student presentations. However, it is expected that students complete reading assignments and ungraded activities outside of class time.

## Grading:

The course grading will be Credit / No Credit. To receive credit for this course you are expected to attend all department seminars, actively participate in discussions, and give in-class presentations covering your research topic area.

The course grade will be determined by a weighted average of Seminar Attendance, Discussions, and the Writing Project.

- **Practice/Participation Activities – 0%**

Throughout the semester there will be several ungraded activities. The purpose of these activities is to give an opportunity to practice incorporating module topics into your own research writing. These assignments won't be graded but you are highly encouraged to complete them as they will contribute to your writing project.

- **Seminar Attendance – 25%**

The department will host approximately 5 research seminars over the semester. These seminars will be held over Zoom. You are expected to attend the seminar and complete a short writeup about the contents of the talk. The schedule of the department seminars will be released soon, but they are typically on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM.

- **Project Presentations – 50%**

You will give multiple presentations about your research topic as you progress through the choice of project area and complete a literature review of your topic. Peer feedback will be provided after each presentation, and this feedback should be incorporated into future presentations.

- **Presentation Self-Assessment – 25%**

Each presentation you give will be recorded for you to review afterward. You are expected to perform a self-assessment of your presentation and submit a short writeup of what you learned by watching yourself present.

## Instructor Communication Policy:

I will make every effort to respond to your email questions within 24 hours Monday through

Friday. However, I will not respond to emails outside of the hours 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. If for some reason you have not received a reply after 24 hours, please feel free to email me again. I will not respond to your email after 5 pm on Friday until Monday morning.

## Required Materials:

It is **required** that you obtain the textbook *Writing for Computer Science*. Each module will include a reading assignment from this book.

### Textbook Required

Title: Writing for Computer Science

Authors: Justin Zobel

Publisher: Springer-Verlag London; 3<sup>rd</sup> edition

ISBN 978-1-4471-6638-2

## Course Policies:

### Academic Dishonesty

By enrolling at CSU Channel Islands, students are responsible for upholding the University's policies and the Student Conduct Code. Academic integrity and scholarship are values of the institution that ensure respect for the academic reputation of the University, students, faculty, and staff. Cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration with another student, knowingly furnishing false information to the University, buying, selling or stealing any material for an examination, or substituting for another person may be considered violations of the [Student Conduct Code](#)).

**If a student is found responsible for committing an act of academic dishonesty in this course, the student may receive academic penalties including a failing grade on an assignment or in the course, and a disciplinary referral will be made and submitted to the Dean of Students office.** For additional information, please see the faculty [Academic Senate Policy on Academic Dishonesty](#)., also in the CI Catalog. Please ask about my expectations regarding academic dishonesty in this course if they are unclear.

### Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability requesting reasonable accommodations in this course, please visit Disability Accommodations and Support Services (DASS) located on the second floor of Arroyo Hall or call 805-437-3331. All requests for reasonable accommodations require registration with DASS in advance of needed services. Faculty, students and DASS will work together regarding classroom accommodations. You are encouraged to discuss approved accommodations with your faculty.

- [Apply for DASS Services](#).

### Title IX and Inclusion

Title IX & Inclusion manages the University's equal opportunity compliance, including the areas of affirmative action and Title IX. Title IX & Inclusion also oversees the campus' response to the University's nondiscrimination policies. CSU Channel Islands prohibits discrimination and

harassment of any kind on the basis of a protected status (i.e., age, disability, gender, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, medical condition, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion or religious creed, sexual orientation, and Veteran or Military Status). This prohibition on harassment includes sexual harassment, as well as sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, and stalking. For more information regarding CSU Channel Islands' commitment to diversity and inclusion or to report a potential violation, please contact Title IX & Inclusion at 805.437.2077 or visit <https://www.csuci.edu/titleix/>.

## Weekly Modules:

Module 1 | Introduction and Getting Started | Dates: 8/23/22

Module 2 | Reading and Reviewing | Dates: 8/30/22

Module 3 | Hypotheses, Questions, and Evidence | Dates: 9/6/22

Module 4 | Writing a Paper | Dates: 9/13/22

Module 5 | Good Style and Style Specifics | Dates: 9/20/22

Module 6 | Punctuation | Dates: 9/27/22

Module 7 | Presentations | Dates: 10/4/22

Module 8 | Mathematics | Dates: 10/11/22

Module 9 | Algorithms | Dates: 10/18/22

Module 10 | Graphs, Figures, and Tables | Dates: 10/25/22

Module 11 | Other Professional Writing | Dates: 11/1/22

Module 12 | Editing | Dates: 11/8/22

Module 13 | Experimentation | Dates: 11/15/22

Module 14 | Statistical Principles | Dates: 11/22/22

Module 15 | Ethics | Dates 11/29/22