

## Introduction to Academics in Computer Science Fall 2015

**Course Number and Section:** CIS 1001-001

**Course Day, Time, and Place:** Fridays, 10:00AM to 10:50AM, Beury Hall Room 160

- Note: Class sessions will be recorded, and corresponding video, and other associated documentation, will be available on-line shortly after each class session.

**Instructor:** Dave Rice

**Office:** Room 329 / SERC Building

**Contact Phone:** 610-235-6979

**Email Address:** [dave.rice@temple.edu](mailto:dave.rice@temple.edu)

**Office Hours:**

- 11:00AM - 12 Noon Fridays
- Please let me know if you need to arrange a different meeting time, and I'll do my best to align with your schedule and needs.

**Teaching Assistant:** Nakiya Shamshudin

- Contact Information: [nakiya.shamshudin@temple.edu](mailto:nakiya.shamshudin@temple.edu)

**Course-Related Communication:**

- Temple University's Blackboard application will be used heavily during the course. Please ensure that you have adequate mastery of the Blackboard application to ensure regular and consistent access.
- A course web site is also provided for your use during the semester -- e.g., homework submission: <http://cis-linux2.temple.edu/cis1001/>
- Each class session will be captured on video, and provided shortly thereafter for viewing. These videos are particularly important to students participating via Temple Japan as playback will serve as your means of access to the in-class content.

**Course Description:**

This course provides an introduction to the field of computing. It features weekly presentations and discussions with guest lecturers from the Temple academic community, and also various industry experts. Each week will focus on a particular topic of contemporary interest, and is intended to reflect the highly inter-disciplinary nature of the field. Potential career opportunities, including internships, will also be discussed.

**Course Objectives:**

- Introduce students to the Computer and Information Sciences (CIS) department at Temple -- e.g., the curriculum, the key players, the opportunities.
- Provide students with a "bird's eye view" of the inter-disciplinary nature of the world of computers and information systems.
- Introduce students to topics of contemporary interest in the world of CIS.
- Provide opportunities for students to establish contacts with industry representatives.
- Enable students to further polish the critical analysis, synthesis, and communication skills necessary for success.

- Provide students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the various educational technology tools available at Temple -- e.g., Blackboard, course web site, etc.

### **Textbook:**

This course does not require the purchase of a textbook.

However, for those interested in reading more about the digital age, you might want to consider this book:

Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeen and Harry Lewis, *Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness After the Digital Explosion*, Addison-Wesley, 2008.

However, purchase of this book is strictly voluntary, and is not required in order to succeed with this course.

### **Schedule:**

A schedule of planned speakers will be published on Blackboard the first week of class, and updated throughout the semester as necessary. Some fluidity in the line-up may occur in order to accommodate the schedules of the respective speakers. In addition, some “slots” will be left “open” in a desire to accommodate particular topics of interest to the group. We’ll discuss these sorts of interests early in the semester, and do what we can to accommodate them accordingly. The goal is to provide a good cross-section of timely information related to computer and information sciences, and to do so via respective experts from both the Temple community, and various companies in the industry.

### **Grading:**

**Attendance is 50% of the overall course grade.** A sign-up sheet will be used each week to record attendance. If your signature is missing from a given sign-up sheet, you will not receive corresponding credit for attending the session. Attendance each week garners 10 points toward your overall course score. Unavoidable absences require written confirmation from the corresponding organization -- e.g., notes from a physician in the event of illness; from an authorized member of the coaching staff for a Temple-sponsored athletic event; from an authorized officer of the ROTC program for duty calls; etc.

**Weekly assignments constitute the remaining 50% of the overall course grade.** The specific assignment for a given week will be provided during class, and is due by the start of the following week’s session. A web site for posting your completed work will be provided. Each weekly assignment is worth 10 points toward your overall course grade. The corresponding basis for grading weekly assignments will emphasize content (70%), and mechanics (30%). Content will be assessed based on the demonstration of critical analysis, synthesis, creativity, originality of thought, and written communication skills. Mechanics includes correct spelling, grammar, and professional writing style.

The following grid illustrates the basis for grading:

Final Grade	% of Total Points Attained -vs- Available
-------------	---

<b>A</b>	<b>92 - 100</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90 - 91</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>88- 89</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>82 - 87</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>80 - 81</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>78 - 79</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>72 - 77</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>70 - 71</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>62 - 69</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>60 - 61</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>0 - 59</b>

### **Etiquette:**

The use of devices of any kind -- e.g., cell phones, Smart Phones, laptops, tablets, Apple Watches, Google Glasses, etc. -- during class is strictly forbidden. In addition, please ensure that you silence your devices prior to the beginning of class. Instances of lapse in such etiquette result in the deduction of 10 points from your overall course total. Repetitive instances may also result in dismissal from the respective class session, and potentially, the course overall. Rationale: using such devices during class is extremely distracting for both your peers, and the speakers.

Please arrive for class on-time. Attendance sign-in sheets will be gathered shortly after the class starts. If you have not signed in by then, you will not be able to do so thereafter. Rationale: late arrivals to class are very distracting for both your peers, and the speakers.

### **Academic Honesty Policy:**

#### ***ORIGINALITY OF WORK and CITING OF SOURCES – YOUR WORK MUST BE YOUR OWN***

It is your responsibility to be aware of, and comply with, all university standards as regards academic honesty. Here's a corresponding web site for your reference:

[http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/archive/webarchive/bulletin2004/Responsibilities\\_rights/responsibilities/responsibilities.shtm](http://www.temple.edu/bulletin/archive/webarchive/bulletin2004/Responsibilities_rights/responsibilities/responsibilities.shtm)

You also need to understand and utilize the proper way to cite sources and utilize reference materials. There are many sites for proper APA or MLA citing – either is acceptable for this class. If you are not familiar with how to do this, you can get useful information from the Temple Writing Center or at:

<http://www.temple.edu/writingctr/>

### **Personal Problems:**

Serious problems can arise. Make me aware of your needs as soon as practical. I will work with you.