CS-80—Senior Seminar
Syllabus
Fall '01

James Rogers
x1671
jrogers@cs.earlham.edu
www.cs.earlham.edu/~jrogers

Contact: Scheduled office hours: Tuesday and Friday 10:00–11:00, Thursday and Friday 2:30–5:00. Also, individual meetings Monday 2:30–6:00 and Tuesday 10:00–11:00.

Also other times by appointment. I strongly encourage you to send questions/requests for clarifications to me via e-mail. Unless you specifically request otherwise (or it seems inappropriate) I will strip identifying information off and send my response to the class list. Since most of your fellow students will have the same questions, you will be doing all of us a favor by making the effort to submit them—very much appreciated.

Text: Spinello, Richard A. and Tavani, Herman. *Readings in CyberEthics*, Jones and Bartlett, 2001.

Structure: The senior seminar has two components. The first is a capstone study—a large-scale development or research project that serves as a culmination of your CS studies. This will usually include development of a substantial software system and will invariably include a written paper as well as an oral presentation covering the paper (and the system) at a colloquium at the end of the semester. You will also submit a formal proposal for your project along with a detailed plan for carrying it out which will be presented to the class as a whole during the first half of the semester. In addition, you are expected to maintain a web page on your project which will be linked into the class web. This should include a log of your progress, which should be updated at least weekly.

The second component is group reading and discussion on a topic within the broad area of computer science. This semester the readings will be drawn from *Readings in CyberEthics* a source book of original papers on topics in computer and internet ethics. We will be reading in four or five of the chapters of this book, allowing about three weeks per chapter. While we will all read and discuss all the selected papers from each chapter, you will each be responsible for providing a set of study questions for one paper from each chapter to help guide that reading and discussion, along with a written one or two page synopsis of the paper and, possibly, our discussion which will be provided to the class and included in the class web. You are expected to help lead the discussion of the papers you have prepared in this way.

The class is scheduled to meet once a week for three hours. During this time you will report on the progress of your projects, discuss problems you have encountered, present your proposals, distribute study questions and discuss the readings. This will not necessarily require the full three hours each week. In addition each of you will meet with me for about 1/2 hour each week to discuss the details of your project as well as to review your study questions and synopses.

Evaluation: Each of the deliverables listed below will receive a letter grade along with, in most cases, a written evaluation. Each deliverable will have a specific due date and the grade will be reduced 1/2 letter grade for each weekday it is late. Presentations will receive no credit if they are not ready on their due date. Study questions are due the week before discussion is scheduled, synopses are due the day it is scheduled. Any revisions to include points raised in discussion will be due the week after that discussion takes place.

Tentatively, I am planning to weight these components as follows:

Study questions (collectively) — 10%
Synopses (collectively) — 10%
Discussion (participation both in discussions you help lead and those led by others) — 5%
Bibliography — 5%
Outlines — 5%
Proposal (written and presentation) — 10%
Final paper — 15%
Final project — 25%
(In the case of a research project these previous two will be combined.)
Log/web page — 5%.
Final presentation — 10%

Tentative Schedule:

12/Sept.	Study questions for initial chapter due.
19–26/Sept.	Discussion of initial chapter.
19/Sept.	Bibliography due.
26/Sept.	Outlines of paper and of plan.
3/Oct.	Study questions for next chapter.
10–17/Oct.	Discussion of next chapter.
17/Oct.	Proposals due. Presentations begin
24/Oct.	Study questions for next chapter.
31/Oct.–7/Nov.	Discussion of next chapter.
14/Nov.	Study questions for next chapter.
28/Nov.–5/Dec.	Discussion of next chapter.
5/Dec.	Final draft of paper due, project should be complete. (This is two weeks prior to the end of the semester to allow time for revision.)
Finals week	Colloquium.

Disabilities: Please let me know as early in the semester as possible if there are any adaptations or accommodations you require, if there is any emergency medical information I should know about, or if you might need special arrangements in the case that the building needs to be evacuated. I will be happy to work to accommodate any student with disabilities. The Earlham policy is:

> Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact Academic Support Services and the instructor at the beginning of each semester. *Accommodation arrangements must be made during the first-two weeks of the semester.*

It is important to follow this procedure.