
CIS 400 Senior Design Fall 2009

Prof. Insup Lee
lee@cis.upenn.edu

Goals and Objectives

- Defining a project
 - Conducting Research
 - Presenting your ideas and results
 - Producing and Executing a work plan
-

Course Schedule CIS 400

■ Project Proposal

- ❑ 4-5 pages (~25% of grade)
- ❑ Due by Thursday Oct 8 by 5PM
 - Electronic form – PDF to blackboard **AND** hardcopy
 - Must be in LaTeX
 - ❑ Introduction to Latex, 4:30 pm, Tue Sept 15, Towne 303
- ❑ Proposal Meetings: Oct 12 – Oct 23

■ Progress Report

- ❑ 10-15 pages (~75% of grade)
 - ❑ Due by Friday Dec 4
 - ❑ Progress Meetings: Dec 7 – Dec 18
-

Tentative Course Schedule

CIS 401

- Project progress presentations
 - Judgment Day
 - End of semester demo and poster presentation
 - Prizes awarded to outstanding projects
 - Panel of external judges
-

To Do Fall Semester

- Select a topic
 - Select a team
 - Find a faculty advisor
 - Turn in Project Proposal by Oct 8
 - Meet with me for Project Review
 - Attend **mandatory** information resources session (date TBA)
 - Turn in Project Progress Report by Dec 4
 - Meet with me for Project Review
-

Course Mechanics

- Office hours:
 - 4:30-5:30 pm TTh and also by email appointment
 - Project proposals handed in Levine 311 to Ms. Marissa Mele
 - Sign up schedule proposal review meetings
 - TA: Jian Chang, Andrew West
-

Course Web Page

- www.seas.upenn.edu/~cis400
 - Includes some project suggestions and links to past project descriptions
 - Other helpful information:
 - http://www.seas.upenn.edu/~cse400/CSE400_2009_2010/CIS400_prop_spec.pdf
 - http://www.seas.upenn.edu/~cse400/CSE400_2009_2010/CIS400_write_guide.pdf
-

Characteristics of a good project

- The problem is interesting
 - You are aware of prior work and can explain why your project is better/different
 - You have a clear idea of what your end result will be
 - You understand what's required in terms of skills, personnel, equipment, tools, and time
 - Grading Rubric available online
-

Project Proposal Format

- ***Title***
 - ***Project Name, participants, faculty advisor***
 - ***Abstract***
 - ***1-2 paragraph description of the project including a clear description of what your software system will eventually do***
-

Project Proposal Format

- ***Related Work (1 – 2 pages)***
 - ***Summarize related research, products and systems***
 - ***Explain why the proposed system is better/different from what already exists***
 - ***Multiple information sources:***
 - ***Patents, Textbooks, Scholarly articles, tech reports, web sites***
 - ***Proposed Work (2 pages approx)***
 - ***Explain how your system will work***
 - ***Provide a block diagram of major components if applicable***
 - ***Explain the principal technical challenges***
 - ***Evaluation Criteria***
-

Project Proposal Format

■ ***Milestones/Timetable***

- ***List the major tasks that you will need to perform and when you expect to do them***
- ***Must indicate tangible deliverables to be demonstrated at the end of fall and spring semesters***
- ***Resources Required (if needed)***
 - ***Which computers will you use, what hardware and software tools are required what new textbooks and reference material***

■ ***References***

- ***List the articles, textbooks, web sites, etc. that you cited in the body of your project proposal***
-

Project Progress Report

- Similar format to Project Proposal but Technical approach section will be expanded
 - Description of work done to date
 - Results of implementing prototype
 - Detailed plan for work to be done next semester
-

Grading Considerations

- Is it clear what the project is about?
 - Have you done sufficient research to identify related projects, products and relevant resources?
 - Do you have a plausible technical approach and a clear idea of the challenges?
 - Do you have a clear idea of what it will take to get the project done, time, equipment tools personnel etc.?
 - Is the project innovative?
-

Plagiarism Policy

- All reports and code turned in are expected to be original work.
 - Refer to the web site for a detailed plagiarism policy
 - Violations of the policy will be viewed as a serious breach of Academic Ethics and may result in a trip to the OSC
-