Computing Science Course Outlines 2020 Fall

CMPT 105W - D200 Process of Prof. Writing

Instructor(s): Harinder Khangura

SFU Surrey

Calendar Objective/Description:
Process of Prof. Writing

Instructor's Objectives:
Within the context of writing processes, CMPT 105W teaches the fundamentals of informative and persuasive communication for computing scientists and professional engineers in order to assist students in thinking critically about various contemporary technical, social, and ethical issues. The course focuses on communicating technical information clearly and concisely as well as managing issues of persuasion when communicating with diverse audiences. Students will complete several individual assignments related to writing, as well as creating PowerPoint and poster presentations.

Most if not all course components (lectures, assignments, and exams) will be in an online format. Students must have access to a computer with internet access. Some components of the course may require real-time participation during the scheduled lecture and/or exam times.

Note that CMPT 105W-3 meets the SFU requirement for a lower division writing intensive course.

Prerequisites:
see go.sfu.ca

Topics:
- History of computing and engineering
- Ethical and moral responsibilities of computing and engineering professionals
- Critical thinking (valid arguments, Bloom's taxonomy, the scientific method)
- Discussion topics: free speech, privacy, intellectual property, big data, AI, etc.
- Organizing, researching, and planning for writing
- Revision and editing strategies
- Design for informative and persuasive papers
- Presentation strategies

Grading:
Written Assignments, Participation, Quizzes, and Presentations. A more detailed marking scheme will be provided in the first lecture.

Students must attain an overall passing grade on the weighted average of exams in the course in order to obtain a clear pass (C- or better).

Reference Books:
Strategies for Engineering Communication, Steve Whitmore, Susan Stevenson, John Wiley and Sons, 2002, 9780471128175
Ethics for the Information Age (eText), Michael J. Quinn, Pearson, 2020, 9780135218006
Academic Honesty Statement:

Academic honesty plays a key role in our efforts to maintain a high standard of academic excellence and integrity. Students are advised that ALL acts of intellectual dishonesty will be handled in accordance with the SFU Academic Honesty and Student Conduct Policies (http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student.html).