

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
COSC 5393
GRADUATE SEMINAR IN RESEARCH METHODS
Fall 2019
Monday 6:00-8:45
Location: COB 207

Instructor: Dr. Tom L. Roberts

Office: COB 315-09

E-mail: tomroberts@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Monday 3-6 Tuesday 3-6, and By Appointment

I do not have an office phone. Please use email and CANVAS communication.

Course Description: This course covers the fundamentals of research in Information Systems and Computer Science including both technical and behavioral perspectives.

Texts:

- 1) Human-Computer Interaction: An Empirical Research Perspective
By MacKenzie - Elsevier 978-0-12-405865-1
- 2) Science Research Writing
by Glassman - Deal: Imperial College Press 978-1-84816-310-2
- 3) There will be additional articles and reading posted on the website.

Course Evaluation:

Examinations -	37.5 %
Project –	50 %
<u>Assignments and Online Quizzes –</u>	<u>12.5 %</u>
Total –	100 %

Important Dates:

Final Exams is Monday, December 9 at 6-9.

Last Day to drop classes with an automatic “W” is Monday, November 4, 2019.

Selected Topics:

Introduction to the research process
Theory
Agent Based Modeling
Do’s and Don’ts of research
Critical Thinking and the Review Process
Introduction to technical research
Introduction to socio-technical (behavioral) research
Human-computer interaction

Reviewing the existing literature
Developing a research stream
Forms of analysis
Scientific writing

Topics may be added or subtracted accordingly as the semester goes according to need.
Accordingly, this syllabus is subject to change by the instructor.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week 1 August 26
Introduction to the research process
Theory
Agent Based Modeling

Week 2 September 2
Labor Day Holiday

Week 3 September 9
Do's and Don'ts of research
Agent Based Modeling

Week 4 September 16
Critical Thinking and the Review Process
Agent Based Modeling

Week 5 September 23
Introduction to socio-technical (behavioral) research
Human-computer interaction
Agent Based Modeling

Week 6 September 30
Introduction to socio-technical (behavioral) research
Human-computer interaction
Agent Based Modeling

Week 7 October 7
Introduction to technical research
Agent Based Modeling

Week 8 October 14
Introduction to technical research
Agent Based Modeling

Week 9 October 21
Midterm Exam

Week 10 October 28
Reviewing the existing literature
Agent Based Modeling

Week 11 November 4
Last Day to Drop Classes with a W is November 4
Forms of analysis
Agent Based Modeling

Week 12 November 11
Scientific writing
Agent Based Modeling

Week 13 November 18
Last Meeting before Project is due.

Week 14 November 25
Thanksgiving Holiday

Week 15 December 2
Project is due in class at 6 pm.
Project Slides are due at 6 pm.
Project Poster is due at 6 pm.

Week 16 December 9
Reviews are due at 11:59 on December 8.
Final Exam on Monday December 9 at 6 p.m.

CLASS POLICIES

Academic Dishonesty: Representation of other's work as your own will not be tolerated. Cheating on examinations, quizzes, and homework and the false representation of work will be interpreted as academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined by the UT Tyler Student Guide on Conduct and Discipline.

Attendance/Late Work Policy: Late work is not accepted for credit unless approved by the instructor.

University Policies: The University sets forth policies regarding students' rights and responsibilities in the classroom. These may be revised without notice.

These policies can be found on at the end of this document and the UT Tyler's website:

<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf> University Policies
<http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>

SYLLABUS POLICY

A syllabus is a statement of intent by the course instructor that should clearly explain what a student must do and when they must do it to successfully complete the course and get a grade. A syllabus is intended to protect students from arbitrary or untimely changes in course requirements and due dates. A syllabus must also provide information about departmental and University policies governing conduct of the course.

All UT Tyler teaching faculty are required to distribute a course syllabus to their students on the first class meeting day. Faculty are also required to post their syllabi on the UT Tyler website, in a directory determined by the department or college.

Syllabi for concurrently taught undergraduate/graduate courses (ex: CENG 4314/5314) must clearly describe the additional expectations of graduate students that are substantively and progressively more advanced than those of the undergraduates. This can be done in a separate graduate syllabus or a combined syllabus.

Each syllabus MUST include the following minimum information:

1. Course number, title, section number (if applicable) and scheduled class time;
2. Instructor's name, office address, phone number and e-mail address, with recommendations on which method of contact the instructor prefers;
3. Office hours-- at least three per week and a provision for arranging office hours to accommodate students whose schedules conflict with regularly scheduled office hours.
4. Course content--should be consistent with the approved course description found in the current UT Tyler catalog;
5. Course learning objectives.
6. Grading policy and criteria to determine final course grade;
7. Date of final examination, scheduled according to the University final exam schedule.
Reminder: any deviation from scheduled times must be approved by the college dean.
8. Date to withdraw without penalty (census date)—please include actual date, which can be found in the current Schedule of Classes.
9. Tentative dates of required assignments, quizzes, and tests, if applicable;
10. Attendance and make-up policy
11. Required textbooks, materials, and supplies;
12. Required field trips, rehearsals, etc., scheduled outside of regularly-scheduled class time, along with any accompanying fees and tickets; and/or course procedures unique to the course that might cause students to reconsider their enrollment in the course; and
13. Required university policies and additional information is provided on the following pages.

The information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading criteria and absence and make-up policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as long as the change is without prejudice to the students.

Instructors should also consider including:

1. Course Web site (if applicable);
2. Course prerequisites and restrictions, as they appear in the catalog;
3. Information about required learning-management software (Canvas)
4. Tentative deadlines for all assignments;
5. Tentative schedule of course topics

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT MUST APPEAR IN EACH COURSE SYLLABUS**UT Tyler Honor Code**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are

eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract. The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit

<https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;

- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

Revised 1/18