

# USF Computer Science New Grad Student Orientation Fall 2013

Terence Parr

Professor and graduate director

Sophie Engle

Professor and graduate advisor

Sami Rollins

Professor and department chair

# Today's outline

- Orientation slides
- Discussion of curriculum and study plans
- Java quiz (if wanting to test out of 212)
- 15 minute break
- Registering for classes

# USF CS/WS Professors

- Jeff Buckwalter (on leave)
- Greg Benson
- Sophie Engle
- David Galles
- EJ Jung
- Patricia Francis-Lyon
- Alark Joshi
- Olga Karpenko
- Terence Parr
- Peter Pacheco
- Sami Rollins (current department chair)
- Cindi Thompson
- Dave Wolber

# Icebreaker

- Introduce yourself!
  - What's your name?
  - Where are you from?
  - How did you find out about USF and why did you come to USF?

# Educational Philosophy

- Graduate school is very different from undergrad.
- More open-ended, less “connect the dots”
  - You may be given projects that are not completely specified, or have multiple solutions.
  - We want to teach you how to teach yourself.
- “Teachers open the door. Students must walk through on their own.”

# Workload

- We expect students to put in at least 3 hours outside of class for every hour in class.
- Most classes will require a project every week or two.
  - The way to learn is by doing.
- You will almost always have at least one project to work on.
- The keys to success:
  - Budget your time effectively.
  - Start early on projects

# Advice for success

- “90% of life is showing up” - Woody Allen
  - Come to class on time, do your homework on time, and follow through on things.
- Ask questions! Don't be shy!
- Be curious. Pursue topics that interest you, even if it's not for a class.
  - Learning how to learn on your own is an invaluable skill.
- Budget your time carefully.
  - Everything takes longer than you think it will.

# Advising

- All graduate students are advised by Sophie Engle
  - [sjengle@cs.usfca.edu](mailto:sjengle@cs.usfca.edu)
  - Harney 532



# RESOURCES

# ITS Accounts

- This is your <username>@usfca.edu account
- Using your student ID and the birth date with which you applied for the program are used to "reset" your password. Here's a direct link that you can use to set your password:  
<https://connect.usfca.edu/pw/tools/reset>
- USFconnect site: can obtain grades, degree audits, financial records, and other personal records online:  
<http://usfconnect.usfca.edu>

# CS Accounts

- This is your <username>**@cs.usfca.edu** account
- Your username is the same as your USFConnect username; password: last six digits of student ID
- Use this account to log into the CS machines (HRN 235, 5th floor labs)
- Problems? Talk to: [support@cs.usfca.edu](mailto:support@cs.usfca.edu)

# Remote Access

- Remote login
  - SSH to stargate.cs.usfca.edu, then ssh to a lab machine (hrnxxxxyy.cs.usfca.edu); xxx is room like 535 and yy is machine number
  - Do not use stargate for programming or compute-intensive programs
- Web
  - Web pages may be placed in /home/web/username
  - URL: <http://www.cs.usfca.edu/~username>

# Available Computing

- HRN 235 (aka “Starship Kudlick”) and *NEW* CSI G12
  - 30 dual-boot Linux/Windows boxes
  - Classes during day, lab at night
- 5th floor labs (HRN 530, 535, 536)
  - dual-boot Linux/Windows boxes
  - Research lab (OS X, Linux)
- CS hosts 4 supercomputers used for parallel programming classes and research
- Wireless access is available throughout the 5th floor as “cslabs” password “1kudlick”

# Available USF Labs

- Other labs (campus-wide ITS accounts)
  - University Center
  - Cowell
  - Gleeson Library
- University wide wireless

# Administrative details

# English Proficiency

- You will be expected to write and speak in English as part of your classes.
  - Giving presentations, writing technical documents.
  - Communication of results and ideas is an essential part of this profession.
- If you are not confident in your speaking or writing, there are resources available to help you.
  - Additional ESL classes
  - USF Learning and Writing Center
- Some of you have an ESL requirement as specified in your offer letter



# English Proficiency

- TOEFL scores
  - 100 (IBT)/250(CBT)/100(IBT): ok
  - Below this, you might be asked to get evaluated by the ESL group at USF.
- ESL classes <http://www.usfca.edu/esl/>

# Registration

- Log in to USFConnect, follow instructions at the link below
- Sign up for Fall courses:

[HTTP://WWW.USFCA.EDU/REGISTRATION/ONLINEREGISTRATION/](http://www.usfca.edu/registration/onlineregistration/)

# Tuition payments

- Technically due Aug 1, but a bill is triggered when you register for courses today
- You should sign up for the payment plan or pay in full as soon as you can
- Fall =  $2 \times 4 \text{ units} = 8 \text{ units} * \$1175 = \$9400$   
but you can deduct any fellowship money you were awarded for Fall; we will notify the Dean's office of your award

<http://www.usfca.edu/payments/>

# Financial Aid

- Merit Scholarships
- Available jobs
  - Visa issues
    - 20 hours/week max work study
    - no outside work - on campus is OK, though.
  - ITS
  - Research and TA positions
    - Hard to get your first semester - most professors will want to know you first.
- Practicum option available to excellent students
  - available after 2 semesters

# Computer science department student conduct

# Academic Honesty

- All students are expected to do their own work
- Cheating is taken very seriously
  - We have expelled students for cheating in the past.
- Plagiarism: properly reference material written by others; you must never pass off others' work as your own. Ever!
- If you are unsure whether something is permitted, please ask!

# Academic Honesty Examples

- OK
  - Discussing general concepts of an assignment
  - Cutting/pasting little code blocks from web and changing to suit your application
- NOT OK
  - Copying someone else's assignment
  - Looking at and directly using someone else's code
  - Downloading code from the Web and claiming it as your own
  - Unauthorized "collaboration" on an exam or project
  - Copying web page text and putting unattributed into report, project, or exam
- Your goal is not to repeat what someone else has done, but to generate unique content! Always.

# Personal interactions

- Please respect your fellow students and faculty
- NO ``unwelcome verbal or physical conduct based on race, color, religion, sex (whether or not of a sexual nature and including same-gender harassment and gender identity harassment), national origin, age (40 and over), disability (mental or physical), sexual orientation...”

<http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/understanding-workplace-harassment-fcc-staff>



# Personal Hygiene

- Americans are very sensitive to body odor
- Please be sure to keep yourself and your clothes clean, particularly during warm weather
- Deodorant is an assumption
- Brush your teeth
- This is important not only for your studies here but getting a job and keeping a job

**JOB STUFF**

# Summer Work

- Often, students do an internship during the summer.
- International students can do this by using OPT or by using CPT.
- CPT requires registration in CS695 Practicum.
- Students are responsible for finding their own internships.
- Watch your email, talk to other students, use craigslist, go to job fairs. Start in Jan. to find job!

# Finding a job after graduation

- We don't do any formal placement of students after graduation.
- Informally, students often take advantage of relationships built through projects or internships.
- Professors help when they can.
- All of last year's graduating class are working in the industry.
- Parr gives seminars on getting jobs and writing resumes

<http://www.cs.usfca.edu/~parrrt/doc/get-a-job.pdf>

<http://www.cs.usfca.edu/~parrrt/doc/resume.pdf>

# Questions?