First Day Admin

Dr. Michele C. Weigle

Outline

- Course Overview
- Important Info
- Grading
- Class Policies
- Resources
- Introductions

http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mweigle/CS891-F15/
Important Info

- Course website
  - http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mweigle/CS891-F15
  - syllabus, useful links

- Email list
  - http://list.odu.edu/mailman/listinfo/cs891-mcw
  - *Sign up today!*

Grading

- This is a pass/fail course
  - doesn't affect your GPA
  - counts as 3 credit hours towards your degree

- How to pass
  - come to class
  - participate in discussions
  - complete assignments
Course Goals

- Improve your skills in
  - making charts and graphs
  - reading papers
  - writing
  - presenting

- How to improve?
  - practice, practice, practice
  - get feedback, revise
  - practice some more

Implementation

- Read academic papers

- Write brief summaries of the papers
  - critique classmates' summaries

- Give presentations on the papers
  - critique classmates' presentations

- Critique visualizations

- Produce original visualizations (charts, graphs)
  - critique classmates' visualizations
Class Policies

- Academic Integrity
- Attendance
- Late Policy
- Other Policies
- Seeking Help

Academic Integrity

"In your own words" means that the text should be your own and not a paraphrase of others' work.
- Just because someone wrote it better than you would have does not make it acceptable to copy their words.

- You will generally be graded upon your own contribution.
  - Finding the perfect quotation or string of quotations to address a topic may still earn you a zero if you add no thoughts or ideas of your own.
  - If you didn't write it, you don't get credit for it!

https://graduate.cs.odu.edu/ms/Academic_Integrity
Academic Integrity

- One of the major goals of this class is to help improve your writing. If you don't do your own writing, how will you improve?

- In this class, the worst things you can do are either not submit anything or submit something that's copied.
  - I'd rather you just not submit anything.

Policies

- Turn off cell phones before coming to class

- Make-up work is only given with a written medical or university excuse

- No individual extra credit work is given
Seeking Help

- Send an email to the class
  - cs891-mcw@list.odu.edu

- Come to office hours (E&CS 3214)
  - Tues/Thurs 10:30am-noon
  - if you can't make office hours, send me an email to set up another time

Seeking Writing Help

- Buy two inexpensive books
  - *Writing for Computer Science* by Justin Zobel
  - *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White

- We'll talk about some of this in class

- List of online resources
  - https://graduate.cs.odu.edu/ms/New_Student_Resources#Writing
A Few Vis Resources

- My collection of resources
  - http://www.cs.odu.edu/~mweigle/Resources/InfoVis

- visualizing.org

- There are lots of others out there

Good Vis Books

- Visualization Analysis and Design, Tamara Munzner
  - Used in CS 725/825

- Visualize This, Nathan Yau

- Now You See It: Simple Visualization Techniques for Quantitative Analysis, Stephen Few

- Designing Data Visualizations, Steele and Illinsky
  - Free (on campus)

- The Visual Display of Quantitative Information, Edward Tufte

- Data Points, Nathan Yau

- Show Me the Numbers: Designing Tables and Graphs to Enlighten, Stephen Few

- Beautiful Visualization, Steele and Illinsky
  - Free (on campus)
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Introductions

- About Me
  - I'm from Louisiana
  - I got my PhD from UNC
  - My research areas are web science, infovis, and networking
  - I'm the Graduate Program Director for the MS program
  - My husband also has a PhD in CS (scientific vis), and we have two boys, ages 3 and 6
  - I love college football and have season tickets to ODU games

- Your Turn!
  - Name
  - MS / PhD
  - Hometown
  - What do you hope to get out of this class
  - Something interesting about yourself