Seminars in Programming Language Systems

Course Information

Course Prefix and Number: CS 8001

Credit Hours: 1

Instructor: Kuldeep S. Meel

Course Description

This course is a seminar series focused on current research topics in programming language systems. Each week, participants engage with recent work through student and faculty presentations, followed by structured discussion. The course is designed to expose students to cutting-edge research, develop their critical reading and presentation skills, and foster a community of scholarship in programming languages, compilers, program analysis, and related areas.

Course Learning Outcomes

By enrolling in this course, students will:

1. Develop the ability to critically read and evaluate research papers in programming language systems.
2. Gain experience presenting technical research to a knowledgeable audience.
3. Engage in substantive technical discussion and provide constructive feedback on research.
4. Broaden their awareness of open problems and recent advances in the field.

Required Course Materials

No textbooks are required. Reading materials consist of research papers selected each week, which will be distributed via the course website or email prior to each seminar session.

Grading Policy

This course is graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) basis. Grades are based on two components:

- **Presentation (50%):** Each student is expected to lead at least one seminar presentation during the semester. Presentations will be evaluated on clarity, depth of understanding of the paper, quality of the slides, ability to situate the work within the broader literature, and responsiveness to audience questions.
- **Participation (50%):** Active and regular participation in seminar discussions is expected. Students should come prepared having read the assigned paper(s) prior to each session, and are expected to contribute substantive questions, observations, and critiques during discussion.

Grades correspond to the following levels of performance:

- **Satisfactory (S):** The student completed the required presentation and actively participated in seminar discussions throughout the semester, meeting the expectations for both components.
- **Unsatisfactory (U):** The student did not meet the expectations for the presentation or participation components, including failure to present, persistent absence, or insufficient engagement in seminar discussions.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance at seminar sessions is required. Since participation is a graded component, absences will directly affect the course grade. Students who anticipate missing a session should notify the instructor in advance.

Academic and Research Honesty/Integrity Statement

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review the Student Code of Conduct and the Academic Honor Code, especially Appendix A: Graduate Addendum to the Academic Honor Code.

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

Core IMPACTS

Not applicable

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Student-Faculty Expectations

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. The Student-Faculty Expectations articulates some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.