

Proposal for a New Course
Syllabus for CMSC 696: How to do Research

Overview: This is a course for Graduate student that will give exposure to both (1) what research is going on at University of Maryland in Computer Science, and (2) the nuts and bolts of being a grad student, e.g, how to read a paper, how to find an advisor. Every week there will be a guest lecturer.

Grading: The course is 1-credit P/F. Attendance is mandatory.

Text: There is no text, though there may be handouts.

Syllabus: The following is a list of possible talk topics. We need not cover all of these and other topics may be added as appropriate.

1. What is happening in Theory?
2. What is happening in Programming Languages?
3. What is happening in Database?
4. What is happening in Artificial Intelligence?
5. What is happening in Vision?
6. What is happening in Software Engineering?
7. What is happening in Systems?
8. What is happening in Numerical Analysis?
9. How do to interdisciplinary research.
10. How to find an Advisor and Topic.
11. What I should have known ahead of time.
12. How to do an empirical study.
13. How to read a research paper
14. How to write a research paper
15. How to listen to a talk.
16. How to give a good talk.
17. Academia vs Industry vs Research labs.