CPSC 503

This is a 3-credit, one-term special topics course.

This course aims at providing each student with a research experience under the guidance of a faculty member (supervisor). Students will be assessed by the instructor in consultation with the project supervisor on the quality of the project deliverables.

Getting a Supervisor

In order to enroll into this course, you need to find a supervisor who will be willing to supervise your research. This can be any CPSC instructor or professor. Please note that you do not necessarily need to have a research project idea, as many supervisors will have research projects that they can potentially assign you to. We suggest that you approach Faculty members that you would like to work with via email, attach your resume and ask whether they would be willing to meet you to discuss the possibility of conducting CPSC 503 research together.

The supervisor must agree to take on the supervisory role in advance of initiating enrolment into the course.

Have a project idea but unsure who to approach as possible Supervisor?

Students who have a project or research area in mind but are unsure which faculty members would be potential supervisors should view the research themes carried out by faculty members in Computer Science: https://science.ucalgary.ca/computer-science/research/research-areas.

Meeting with potential Supervisor

The students should meet with their potential supervisor to discuss topics such as:

- potential project ideas;
- establish tentative project deliverables;
- supervisor’s and student’s time schedules, expected time investment;
- agreeing to regular or irregular meeting times.

GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO THE CONDUCT OF CPSC 503

Time commitment

A typical commitment is around 9 hours per week. There are usually no regularly scheduled classes and students are expected to schedule the required amount of time to complete the course into their schedule. It is the responsibility of each student to coordinate their research work and meetings with their supervisor around their other scheduled classes.

Course evaluation

The following is a typical breakdown of deliverables and the corresponding weights, although these may be adjusted depending on the type of project:

- Research proposal 20%
- Final report 40%
- Final presentation 40%

The deadlines for the deliverables are typically set by the course instructor. The deliverables will be evaluated by the course instructor, with input from the supervisor.
GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO THE REGISTRATION IN CPSC 503

Once the prospective Supervisor has indicated their willingness to supervise you on your project

Complete the webform (https://science.ucalgary.ca/usc-independent-research-course-application) NO LATER than 10 working days before the add/swap deadline in the term (https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html).

- If approval is denied at this point, you will be notified by e-mail.
- If approval is granted, staff in the USC will enrol you into the course and you will be notified by email.