Course Logistics Overview

CS 590M

Spring, 2020

But first, a commercial message:

Hack(H)er413 is the first all-women and non-binary students' hackathon in Western Massachusetts. Over the course of 24 hours, hackathon participants learn and develop new technical skills, network with sponsor company representatives, and innovate with passion.

New Web Page

- URL: tinyurl.com/CS590M-S20
- Contains all of the details about course logistics
- Brief overview here: read the web pages!
- Check out the Practitioner's Gallery
  - Pirates, McDonalds, simulation-project management

Teaching Staff

- **Instructor:** Prof. Peter J. Haas (me)
- **TA:** Cen Wang
- **Grader:** Aditya Vikram Agarwal

- Check out class web page for office hours and email

Prerequisites

- **Programming**
  - 4 to 5 simulation programming assignments in Python 3
  - CS 187 should be adequate background
  - We'll give you a starter template
  - Each program builds upon previous programs

- **Probability and Statistics**
  - STAT 515 or equivalent (calculus-based)
  - Probability: density functions, central limit theorem, law of large numbers
  - Statistics: Point estimates and confidence intervals
  - See handout (via "Prerequisites" page)

There will be a review session on Python and a review session on prob/stats next week. Details to come.

Textbook

- **Required text**: *Simulation Modeling and Analysis, 5th Edition* by Averill Law

- **Highly optional text:** *Stochastic Petri Nets: Modelling, Stability, Simulation* by Peter J. Haas (me again)

- **Reference list:** Many books on simulation and background material

Lecture Slides

- Annotated slides posted after each lecture
- Handout slides posted after each unit
- Some topics are covered **only** by slides and handouts

Policies

Grading:

- Attendance (10%): there will be several in-class collaborative exercises
- HW (40%), two midterms (15% each), cumulative final (20%)
- Evening midterms on Feb 20 & Mar 26, final on May 7

Classroom etiquette:

- No use of cellphones or other devices without permission (you learn better that way)

Policies, Continued

Turning in HW:

- Assigned on Thurs; usually due next Thurs
- Turn in via Gradescope (see web page for instructions)
- You have a total of three late days to allocate as you desire; no credit for late homework
- Programming questions (marked as "computing problem) can be done in pairs
- Pen-and-paper problems are done individually
- Each pair submits a report with a cover page; plus two individual assignments with cover page for pen-and-paper problems
- Regrades must be requested within 5 days

Policies, Continued

We will use Piazza for discussion

- Read rules of etiquette on web page

Academic honesty

- Can discuss HW with others, but write it up yourself
- No cheating on HW or tests
- No posting of materials online without my permission (or providing to 3rd party)
- Read the web page for details: you are responsible

Disability accommodations

- Committed to a barrier-free campus
- Notify me at least a week in advance of an exam
- Let me know about any other requirements