COURSE: CMPS 213, CMPS 313 - Computing Sciences Colloquia  
Department of Computing Sciences, University of Scranton

DATE: Fall 2021 (August 22, 2021 - December 18, 2021)

INSTRUCTOR: P. M. Jackowitz
OFFICE: LSC 192
OFFICE HOURS: As posted (online and office door), and by appointment. Note that you must “Log In” to the Course Web Site (CWS) to access the Zoom links.

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Catalog Descriptions:

**CMPS 213 - Sophomore Colloquia I, 0.5 credits, (Co-requisite CMPS 134)**
CMPS 213 is offered each Fall Semester. Each semester a minimum of five meetings are held where important, emerging, or interesting topics in computing are presented and discussed. The material comes from a variety of sources including, but not limited to, faculty, alumni, invited speakers, students and professional webinars and videos.

**CMPS 313 - Junior Colloquia I, 0.5 credits, (Prequisite: CMPS 213)**
CMPS 313 is offered each Fall Semester. Each semester a minimum of five meetings are held where important emerging, or interesting topics in computing are presented and discussed. The material comes from a variety of sources including, but not limited to, faculty, alumni, invited speakers, students, and professional webinars and videos.

Student Learning Outcomes:

CMPS 213 is the first and CMPS 313 is the third in a six-course sequence of courses designed to be taken by computing majors during the six semesters of their sophomore, junior and senior years. The intent is for each student to accumulate a total of 3.0 credits by completing the sequence, as they develop an increasing involvement in each course.

This sequence of courses, as a colloquia series, is motivated as a means of better fulfilling the ABET student learning outcome dealing with professional development and lifelong learning. Upon completion of the course sequence, a successful student will have:

- Gained an appreciation of the value of staying up to date with developments in computing
- Gained a better appreciation of the breadth of impact and significance of computing
- Begun to identify those areas of computing they might wish to pursue in more depth
- Improved their listening and writing skills, specifically in regard to identifying and communicating key points
- Improved and grown in confidence in their oral communication skills

TEXTS: None required.
REFERENCES: As presented and as required.

Course Web Site: http://www.cs.scranton.edu/~jackowitz/public/Fall2021/colloquia
(This site serves as our primary electronic communication tool for this course. You will use it to access required and optional course material and to submit and review assignments. Initially, you must register to obtain full access to the functionality of this site.)
GRADING:
Each student will receive either ‘S’ or ‘U’ as their final course grade, indicating either an overall evaluation of “Satisfactory” or “Unsatisfactory” performance throughout the semester. Determination of the final course grade is based upon attendance, participation and the grades received on assignments given throughout the semester.

Most assignments will require the student to write a brief document in which they present a synopsis of the most recent Colloquia meeting, supplemented with a reflection of their understanding and appreciation of what was presented at the meeting. For each meeting and related assignment and activity the student will receive one of the following four grades: Absent or Unsubmitted (thus Zero), Unsatisfactory, Satisfactory, or Noteworthy.

To earn a “Satisfactory” final course grade a student must earn predominantly “Satisfactory” or “Noteworthy” grades throughout the semester. Thus, first and foremost, students must be present for all (or nearly all) meetings and complete all (or nearly all) required assignments on time.

Multiple Absent or Unsubmitted grades place the student in serious jeopardy of failing the course. Persistent Unsatisfactory grades would indicate an underlying issue that needs to be addressed, that if not acted upon may likewise place the student in jeopardy of failing the course. Typical reasons for Unsatisfactory grades would be not adhering to the specified Remote Attendance (on Zoom) - Expectations and Etiquette policies or submitting poorly written reports.

Students receiving Unsatisfactory grades on submitted reports may then be required to seek assistance from the Writing Center at the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence (CTLE), and provide evidence of this and of improved writing to the course instructor.

MEETING DATES:
Student schedules specify this course meets on Tuesdays during the 11:30 - 12:50 time period. This has been done to assure that every registered student has no conflict that might prevent them from attending all colloquium meetings. However, no more than six meetings are expected to be held at these times and the exact dates and topics for these six meetings have yet to be determined, but when determined will be posted on the Course Web Site and announced on the Computing Sciences Department web site as well.

The current “COVID situation” limits visitors to campus and so our presenters will continue to join us remotely. Given the provisions of the current “Royal Back Together” policy, and based upon both student and faculty preferences, we will attempt to hold meetings in-person; subject to change.
PROCEDURES:

Note that in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the University has established specific behaviors for all persons on campus. We are all expected to be informed of these and to adhere to them.

Other:

- Syllabi Language regarding faculty reporting obligations as a “required reporter” may be found at https://www.scranton.edu/equity-diversity/faculty-resources.shtml