USF Computer Science
New Grad Student Orientation
Fall 2012
Terence Parr
Professor and graduate director
Professor and graduate advisor

Today’s outline
- Orientation slides
- Discussion of curriculum and study plans
- Java quiz
- 15 minute break
- Registering for classes

Educational Philosophy
- Graduate school is very different from undergrad.
- More open-ended, less “connect the dots”
- You may be given projects that are not completely specified, or have multiple solutions.
- We want to teach you how to teach yourself.
- “Teachers open the door. Students must walk through on their own.”

Workload
- We expect students to put in at least 3 hours outside of class for every hour in class.
- Most classes will require a project every week or two.
- The way to learn is by doing.
- You will almost always have at least one project to work on.
- The keys to success:
  - Budget your time effectively.
  - Start early on projects

Advice for success
- “90% of life is showing up” - Woody Allen
- Come to class on time, do your homework on time, and follow through on things.
- Ask questions! Don’t be shy!
- Be curious. Pursue topics that interest you, even if it’s not for a class.
- Learning how to learn on your own is an invaluable skill.
- Budget your time carefully.
- Everything takes longer than you think it will.

USF CS/WS Professors
- Jeff Buckwalter
- Greg Benson
- Sophie Hspk
- David Cole
- Al Jong
- Patricia Francis-Lyon
- Terence Parr
- Peter Markle (current department chair)
- Sami Rollins (on sabbatical)
- Dave Wolber

Icebreaker
- Introduce yourself!
- What’s your name?
- Where are you from?
- What’s one fun thing you did this summer?
- How did you find out about USF and why did you come to USF?

Advising
- All graduate students are advised by Jeff Buckwalter
  - buckwalter@cs.usfca.edu
  - Harney 526
  - Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday 2-4
    - Any time door is open, or by appointment
  - If you have a pressing need, please schedule an appointment rather than just “dropping in”
RESOURCES

ITS Accounts

- This is your <username>@usfca.edu account
- Using your student ID and the birth date with which you applied for the program are used to "reset" your password. Here's a direct link that you can use to set your password: https://connect.usfca.edu/pw/tools/reset
- USFConnect site can obtain grades, degree audits, financial records, and other personal records online: http://usfconnect.usfca.edu

CS Accounts

- This is your <username>@cs.usfca.edu account
- Your username is the same as your USFConnect username; password: last six digits of student ID
- Use this account to log into the CS machines (HRN 235, 5th floor labs)
- Problems? Talk to: support@cs.usfca.edu or Colin Bean / Alex Fedosov

Remote Access

- Remote login
- SSH to stargate.cs.usfca.edu, then ssh to a lab machine (hronnxxxyy.cs.usfca.edu); xx is room like 535 and yy is machine number
- Do not use stargate for programming or compute-intensive programs
- Web
- Web pages may be placed in /home/web/username
- URL: http://www.cs.usfca.edu/~username

Available Computing

- HRN 235 (aka "Starship Kudlick")
- 30 dual-boot Linux/Windows boxes
- Classes during day, lab at night
- 5th floor labs (HRN 230, 235, 236)
- Dual-boot Linux/Windows boxes
- Research lab (OS X, Linux)
- CS hosts 4 supercomputers used for parallel programming classes and research
- Wireless access is available throughout the 5th floor as "csde" password "kudlick"

Available USF Labs

- Other labs (campus-wide ITS accounts)
- University Center
- Cowell
- Gleeson Library
- University wide wireless

Administrative details

English Proficiency

- You will be expected to write and speak in English as part of your classes
- Giving presentations, writing technical documents
- Communication of results and ideas is an essential part of this profession
- If you are not confident in your speaking or writing, there are resources available to help you
- Additional ESL classes
- USF Learning and Writing Center
**English Proficiency**

- TOEFL scores
  - 100 (IBT)/550(CBT)/100(IBT): ok
- Below this, you might be asked to get evaluated by the ESL group at USF.
- ESL classes [http://www.usfca.edu/esl/](http://www.usfca.edu/esl/)

**Registration**

- Log in to USFConnect, follow instructions at the link below
- Sign up for Fall courses:
  - [http://www.usfca.edu/registration/online-registration/](http://www.usfca.edu/registration/online-registration/)

**Tuition payments**

- Technically due Aug 1: a bill is triggered when you register for courses
- You should sign up for the payment plan or pay in full as soon as you can
- Fall = 2 x 4 units = 8 units $9040 but you can deduct any fellowship money you got for Fall
  - [http://www.usfca.edu/payments/](http://www.usfca.edu/payments/)

**Financial Aid**

- Merit Scholarships
- Available jobs
  - Vice teams
  - 10 hours/week non work study
  - on outside work - no campus is OK, although not
    10
- Research and TA positions
  - Need to get approved: application - most professors will want to know you first.
- Practice option available to members:
  - available after 2 semesters.

**Computer science department student conduct**

**Academic Honesty**

- All students are expected to do their own work
- Cheating is taken very seriously
  - We have expelled students for cheating in the past.
- Plagiarism: properly reference material written by others; you must never pass off others' work as your own. Ever!
  - If you are unsure whether something is permitted, please ask!

**Academic Honesty Examples**

- OK:
  - Discussing general concepts of an assignment
  - Complaining about work loads but changing to work
    in another group
- NOT OK:
  - Copying someone else's assignment
  - Looking at and directly using someone else's work
  - Cheating on an exam or midterm
  - Unacknowledged "collaboration" on an exam or project
  - Copying executive's work and posting unanswered true or false questions
  - You are not permitted to work with someone else when someone else has done the generating work needed. Always.

**Personal interactions**

- Please respect your fellow students and faculty
  - NO "unwelcome verbal or physical conduct based on race, color, religion, sex (whether or not as a sexual nature and including same-
    gender harassment and gender identity harassment), national origin, age (40 and
    over), disability (mental or physical), sexual orientation..."
**Personal Hygiene**

- Americans are very sensitive to body odor
- Please be sure to keep yourself and your clothes clean, particularly during warm weather (deodorant is a good idea) ;)
- Brush your teeth
- This is important not only for your studies here but getting a job and keeping a job

**JOB STUFF**

**Summer Work**

- Often, students want to do an internship during the summer.
- International students can do this by using OPT or by using CPT.
- Requires you to register for CS695 Practicum.
- Students are responsible for finding their own internships.
- Watch your email, talk to other students, use craigslist, go to job fairs. Start in Jan. to find job!

**Finding a job after graduation**

- We don't do any formal placement of students after graduation.
- Informally, students often take advantage of relationships built through projects or internships.
- Professors help when they can.
- All of last year's graduating class are working in the industry.
- Parr gives seminars on getting jobs and writing resumes.

Questions?