Course Details
Topics in Internet Research

Requirements and Deadlines:

- This class attempts to develop and enhance literature search and reading skills. We specifically focus on Internet-related research problems. There are gazillion such problems encompassing a number of areas but we will cover only five areas during this quarter.

- Attendance is required in this class. If you plan to miss more than one class during the quarter, please take this class some other time when you have more time.

- Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will be promptly reported to Value and Ethics Committee. Don’t expect to pass the course in such a case. The punishment can be severe. If you really have an urge for such unpermitted activity, there is really no point in taking this class.

- Students are expected to prepare for the lectures in advance by reading the assigned papers or articles for each class; first meeting of the class is an exception.

- A one-page summary of the assigned papers is due in class. Give the summaries to the TA at the end of the class. These summaries, preferably typewritten, must be prepared individually. You will be assessed on the basis of these summaries. Note that these summaries constitute the “Homeworks” portion of grading. No extensions are possible.

- A term project related to Internet research needs to be completed in order to get a grade in this course. The project has been divided in different phases: proposal, midterm report and final project. The project should be of sufficient quality to be sent to a conference, perhaps with some extra work in the summer. This absolutely means no plagiarism. You are welcome to do a survey project but, again, the quality should be such that some extra work should make your report appear in a magazine.
• Expect to spend 10 to 15 hours a week outside class, on average. This is fairly standard for a 3 unit course. If you are not used to this schedule, don’t worry. You will be by the end of the quarter!

• Projects can be done individually or in groups of at most three students per group. The grouping must be approved by the instructor before the proposal is submitted. Don’t assume that your project group will be approved by default. Talk to us early.

• There are three required appointments with the TA for each group. You are responsible to schedule these appointments yourself. First appointment of about half an hour must be made before the proposal is due. Second appointment should be an hour long appointment and needs to be scheduled before the mid-quarter report is due. Third and final appointment is for the project demo or final project discussion. These appointments also carry grade points and count towards “Homeworks” portion of grading.

• Project proposals are due on Monday March 17, 2003 at noon. Before submitting proposals, you must get your project approved by the Instructor. Make arrangements to discuss it with the TA and the instructor. A hard copy as well as a soft copy emailed to both the instructor and the TA is required. One email per group is okay, individual members don’t need to send separate emails.

• In this course you will also need to be a consultant and evaluate two additional projects currently undertaken by other students in the class. Each student is randomly assigned two projects by the instructor. The evaluations have to be thorough and you will need to schedule appointments with the group whose project you are evaluating. There are two rounds of evaluations, one around mid-quarter and the other towards the end.

• Midterm reports are due on Monday April 07, 2003 at noon.

• Mid-quarter project evaluations by the consultants are due on Monday April 14, 2003 at noon.

• Final Projects are due on Thursday May 08, 2003 in class.

• Final project evaluations by the consultants are due on Monday May 12, 2003 at noon.

• These deadlines are hard. Please schedule your other activities around these deadlines.