YWCC 307: Professional Development in Computing

Course and Instructor Information

Instructor: Mark Chiusano
Delivery Mode: Face-to-Face
Office Hours: Fridays 11:30 AM to 12:350 AM, 3901 3rd Floor GITC

Course Description

This course is designed for junior year students to reflect back on the college experience and to help plan for the future as a computing professional. The course will explore transitional issues that occur during the progression from student to professional through reflection on co-op and/or internship.

Prerequisites

- YWCC 207

Materials

- Canvas Learning Management System
- Visual Studio Code
- A GitHub Account

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes for this course are designed to align with ABET Student Outcomes 3 and 4 which are reproduced here for transparency:

> Graduates of the program will have an ability to:
>
> 3. Communicate effectively in a variety of professional contexts.
> 4. Recognize professional responsibilities and make informed judgments in computing practice based on legal and ethical principles.

Outcomes expected upon completion of this course:

1. Students will be able to create a learning plan for a new computing topic.
2. Students will be able to estimate how long it will take to achieve a project milestone and budget their time accordingly.
3. Students will be able to effectively communicate their concerns to a supervisor.
4. Students will be able to effectively communicate with other team members.
5. Students will be able to participate in a team and recognize the importance of the entire team being successful.

6. Students will be able to make informed decisions based on legal and ethical principles.
7. Students will have strategies to maintain interest in learning new things and adapting over the course of a computing career.

Course Outline

Meeting	Topics	Learning Outcomes
1	● What does professional development in a computing career look like? ● What are employers looking for in a new employee?	7
2	● Learning how to learn ● Knowing and communicating your limitations	1, 3
3	● Professional responsibilities as a team member ● How to disagree productively ● Conflict resolution	3, 4, 5
4	● Delivering ● Scope creep ● Good enough can be better but it can't be perfect	5
5	● Team dynamics ● QA responsibilities ● Team accountability	4, 5, 6
6	● Working with a project manager ● Effectively suggesting improvements ● Reading a room	3, 4
7	● Modeling as communication ● Making meetings productive	3, 4
8	● Sustaining interest ● Fostering innovation and creativity	1, 7
9	● Legal and ethical responsibilities in the computing workplace ● Workplace harassment, intimidation, and bullying	3, 4, 6
10	● Participating in an unbalanced team ● Maintaining accountability	3, 4, 5
11	● Lifelong learning in computing careers ● Transitioning to a management role	3, 4,7

Policies

Grading Policy

This course has ten assignments which are used to determine your final grade. Each assignment contributes to 10% of your final grade. Any assignment turned in after its due date can receive a maximum of half credit.

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: NJIT Academic Integrity Code.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu.

Generative AI

Student use of artificial intelligence (AI) is permitted in this course for assignments and activities. Additionally, if and when students use AI in this course, the AI must be cited as is shown within the NJIT Library AI citation page for AI. If you have any questions or concerns about AI technology use in this class, please reach out to your instructor prior to submitting any assignments.

Student Absences for Religious Observance

NJIT is committed to supporting students observing religious holidays. Students must notify their instructors in writing of any conflicts between course requirements and religious observances, ideally by the end of the second week of classes and no later than two weeks before the anticipated absence. All instructors must include a reminder on the course syllabus about this notification process. All instructors are required to provide academically reasonable accommodations, allowing students to complete missed assignments, exams, quizzes, or other coursework within the term. Instructors are encouraged to consider the NJIT religious holiday calendar and exercise cultural sensitivity when scheduling assessments or major assignments. All instructors must ensure that students are not penalized for properly documented absences and maintain confidentiality regarding religious observances. For questions or additional

guidance, please review the policy or contact the Office of Inclusive Excellence at inclussiveexcellence@njit.edu.