

# **CS 399 / CS 499 : Graphics Projects**

## **Syllabus -- Winter (Jan-Mar) 2007**

ver. 1.3

**Instructor:** Jack Tumblin,

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**Class Meetings:** 3:15 – 4:00PM Thurs., Ford Design Center, South-east corner lounge, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

### **Course Goals:**

--Plan and complete a research-related or engineering-related computer graphics project.

The project must meet one or more of these goals:

- a) support a class (e.g. ‘starter code’, teaching materials, RTFM plans, design/test projects), or
- b) support one of the group’s current computer graphics research projects. All of these will lead to at least one refereed publication, and we’d like your contribution to be large enough to warrant listing you as paper author.
- c) Support a team’s research project or a project of your own, leading to publishable results.

--Create your plan at the beginning of the quarter (see Milestones).

--Report your progress each week: write a 1-page summary of the week’s work, progress, and challenges; we’ll discuss these in the graphics group meeting.

--Evaluate how well you did at the end of the quarter, by adding comments to your plan from the start of the quarter. Your marked-up plan and weekly reports together make at least 8 pages of writing that describes your work; this is a fine ‘final report’, and big step towards a publishable paper.

### **Course Milestones:**

- 1) **Initial Project Plan Due. Monday Jan 8:** Write these as a printable document that everyone can see, and post it on your graphics group wiki page. (see [www.alchemy.cs.northwestern.edu/graphics](http://www.alchemy.cs.northwestern.edu/graphics) )

Your plan may be short (a two page plan is OK), but it must be specific and include these 4 sections:

**-Goals.** Describe the specific goals you will pursue in the project (at least 2).

**-Reading List.** Books/papers/websites you will to read/study to prepare the project.

**-Milestones / Schedule** Devise your own list of at least 3 measurable milestones (tangible, completed tasks) that divide the project into achievable pieces you can do, one at a time. Your schedule should be no finer than 1 week resolution, with each week marked by the Graphics Group meeting dates; don’t make more milestones than weeks! There are only 9 weeks between now and finals week—list each date, then fill in a milestone on each date that you’re confident you can meet.

**-Deliverables.** On the same week-by-week, 9-line schedule, list tangible, concrete, demonstration-ready things you’ll have finished at the end of the quarter. Again, be realistic: only list things you’re confident you can complete in that time.

- 2) **Weekly Report Page Due. On or before 3:00pm every Wed Jan 10, 17, 24, 31; Feb 7,14,21,28, Mar 7.** On the WIKI page set up for the Graphics Group by Chi-Yin Cheung, enter one page of text and/or pictures that describe your progress/results/difficulties that week. Each week at the graphics group meeting you’ll have 5 minutes to lead discussion. If you don’t turn in your

page on time (24 hours before, so we all have a chance to review), then you can't talk at the meeting, but next meeting you'll have 2 pages of work to discuss.

- 3) **End-of-Quarter Assessment Due.** On or before Wed .Mar 14 (finals week). One page markup of your 'initial project plan', in which you comment on how well you did—what would have helped to know, what you learned. This, plus weekly reports, plus initial project plan acts as your final report for the project.

## **Course Deliverables:**

**1) Required Attendance & Participation:** Come to graphics group meetings each week, ready to discuss others' work, even if you didn't get your report page done on time.

**2) Required Final Report:** On or before the Friday of Final Exams week, your WIKI page must include:

- a) Initial Project Plan (due at end of Week1),
- b) Weekly Report page for each week starting with week 2 onwards,
- c) End-of-Quarter Assessment (copy of Initial Project Plan with your own comments added)