



Introduction

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CPS 399.28: Research Seminar & Project in Databases
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Course info

- ❖ Time: Tuesdays 10:05am-11:20am
- ❖ Place: North Bldg. 306
- ❖ Instructor (or rather, facilitator): Jun Yang
 - Office hours: right after lectures, or by appointment
- ❖ Web page:
<http://www.cs.duke.edu/courses/spring08/cps399.28/>
 - Tentative schedule
 - Reading assignments
 - Presentation slides



Course format

- ❖ Seminar + project
 - No lectures, no homework, no exams
- ❖ Seminar component
 - Each class meeting covers ~2 research papers
 - Papers posted on web at least one week in advance
 - Reviews due the midnight before the lecture
 - We take turns presenting (and leading the discussion)
 - Each of you are expected to present 2-3 times
 - A presenter for a paper need not submit review for that paper
- ❖ Project component
 - Individual projects are okay, though teamwork is preferred
 - Two class meetings are reserved for proposal presentation and progress report—everybody presents
 - Mini-conference in place of final exam



Goal

- ❖ Ready yourself for doing research in databases (or a related field)
- ❖ Practice
 - How to present ideas and results
 - How to critique others' (and your own) work
- ❖ Learn
 - Recent developments in selected areas of database (or related) research
- ❖ Enjoy
 - Picking research problems
 - Working on a research project
 - Brainstorming, discussions, and debates with your colleagues



Grading

(Grades should be of least importance for courses like this one!)

- ❖ Breakdown
 - Reviews 20%
 - Presentation/discussion 20%
 - Attendance 10%
 - Project proposal presentation 10%
 - Project progress report 10%
 - Final project presentation 30%
- ❖ Scale
 - [90%, 100%] A
 - [80%, 90%) B
 - [70%, 80%) C
 - [60%, 70%) D
 - [0%, 60%) F



Roadmap

- ❖ This week
 - Introduction: get to know each other's interests better
 - I'll then come up with a tentative reading list
 - You'll sign up for presentation slots
- ❖ Next week
 - I'll present the first two papers: Google's MapReduce and Bigtable (reviews due by Monday)
 - Reading list/presentation slots will be finalized
- ❖ Feb. 26: project proposal presentation
- ❖ Apr. 8: project progress reports
- ❖ May 1: mini-conference of final project presentations