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## Administrivia

- (Look at syllabus.)

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## About This Course — Some Context

- The department believes that there is much to be gained by having some way to get all the students and faculty together every week.
- When I arrived at Trinity in 1999, P/E/D (“Professional, Ethical, Design Seminar”) more or less served this purpose (though only in the spring semester, and mostly for students) — it was attended by all or nearly all sophomores, juniors, and seniors majoring in CS. The first-years were left out all along, and when we dropped the requirement that seniors attend, the community-building aspect was reduced.
- Some other departments have departmental seminars that seem to do what we want in this respect. In the most-recent curricular revision we replaced P/E/D with this course.

### About This Course — Kinds of Talks

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- Presentations by department faculty about their research (overviews emphasizing opportunities for student involvement).
- Presentations by faculty from other departments about research of interest and relevance to CS.
- Presentations by students about research (e.g., results from an REU) or internships.
- Presentations about job and internship opportunities.
- “And stuff” (to borrow a Myers phrase).

### About This Course — Course Requirements

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- Your grade will be based solely on attendance (details in syllabus).
- In past semesters I’ve tracked attendance by circulating a sign-in sheet, but apparently this doesn’t work very well. So instead we’ll try something else, more like the “minute essays” I use in other classes, but hardcopy only:  
Each of you will turn in, at the end of the class, a piece of paper with your name and a sentence or two about the class — something you learned, something you found interesting, a question, or anything else that seems relevant.

### Minute Essay

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- Tell me a little about yourself — your major(s) and minor(s), what areas of CS you find most interesting, and anything else that seems relevant and useful, including:
  - Have you taken this course before, and if so when?
  - Have you been involved in a research project or internship — i.e., are you a possible student presenter?
- If you have thoughts about speakers/topics you'd find particularly interesting, now might be a good time . . .