

Slide 1

Administrivia

- (Look at syllabus.)

Slide 2

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, 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

Slide 3

- 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).

Minute Essay

Slide 4

- Normally at this point in classes I do a “minute essay” to track attendance and get some feedback on student understanding. I won’t normally do that in this class, but today . . .
- 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 . . .