

ECE 8930: Parallel Computing Seminar

Instructor: Dr. Jon C. Calhoun
Email: jonccal@clermson.edu
Office: Riggs 221-C

Class Location: Riggs Freeman Hall 138

Course Modality: Modified Traditional

Meeting Times: Tuesdays 3:30-4:45 PM

Office Hours: Tuesday 11 AM – 12 PM Additional office hours must be arranged via email.

Course Description (1 credit hours)

Students working in parallel, cluster, HPC or related areas read/present transformative publications within the past year. Students will get chance to present in-progress work and practice presenting technical material.

Course Objectives

At the successful completion of the course,

- Students will develop oral communication skills
- Students will constructively critique technical presentations
- Students will learn how to effectively read papers
- Students will write reviews for published research papers

Required Materials

Textbook: None

Internet connected laptop.

Course Management System

The Canvas© system will be used to make class announcements, turn in assignments, and provide students access to additional course materials (e.g. PowerPoint slides, assignments, gradebook, papers discussed).

Tentative Topical Outline

The list of speakers and topics will be created on the first day. Check Canvas for the current list.

Class Cancellation Policy

Assume the class is canceled if the instruction is more than 10 minutes late and no Canvas post.

Grading

Scale:

A: [90%, 100%]; B: [80%, 90%]; C: [70%, 80%]; D: [60%, 70%]; F: [0%, 60%]

Presentation:

80%

Attendance and Participation:

20%

Paper Presentation

When presenting in class, the student(s) will be responsible for making slides and facilitating discussion (if needed). The presentation can be you practicing for an upcoming conference talk, presentation from a summer internship, in-progress research results, or a paper you found interesting. If presenting on a research paper you did not author, you should largely focus on the paper but may contain supplemental material. This type of presentation should focus on highlighting the paper's major ideas in a way to foster discussion. This is not just a restatement of the paper's ideas. Example discussion topics include:

- New ideas and techniques
- Comparisons with other papers
- Strengths of paper
- Shortcomings of paper
- How you would have done things differently

Paper Reviews

Each student will submit a paper review for all papers discussed in class prior to the paper being discussed. Reviews should address each of the following sections in no more than 3 sentences per section:

- Brief summary of the paper
- Strengths of the paper
- Shortcomings of the paper
- How would you improve on this work?
- A question or issue to raise for discussion

Presentation Critique

Each student will submit a critique for all presentations discussed in class. Reviews should address each of the following sections in no more than 3 sentences per section:

- Positives of presentation and discussion
- How could the presentation and discussion be improved?

Attendance Policy

1. Attendance is mandatory. Note students who are attending in-person classes in traditional courses and are not approved to be online for all spring semester are expected to return to in-person attendance once cleared by the University. Students that must quarantine/isolate will

not suffer any grade penalties associated with their physical absence from in-person classes. Quarantining students should join via Zoom

2. Online attendance is mandatory for students approved to be online for all spring semester.
3. Use the Notification of Absence module in Canvas or email to inform the instructor of student absences.
4. To maintain physical distancing, individuals arriving first to the classroom should sit farthest from the door. Similarly, at the conclusion of class, students closest to the door should leave first.
5. While on campus, face coverings are required in all buildings and classrooms. Face coverings are also required in outdoor spaces where physical distance cannot be guaranteed. Please be familiar with the additional information on the Healthy Clemson website, such as the use of wipes for in-person classes. If an instructor does not have a face covering or refuses to wear an approved face covering without valid accommodation, students should notify the department chair. If a student does not have a face covering or refuses to wear an approved face covering without valid accommodation, the instructor will ask the student to leave the academic space and may report the student's actions to the Office of Community & Ethical Standards as a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. If the student's actions disrupt the class to the extent that an immediate response is needed, the instructor may call the Clemson University Police Department at 656-2222.
6. Specific COVID-19 related information for student absences:
For a student who reports testing positive or is being asked to quarantine because of exposure to the virus, it will be up to the student to inform the instructor that they will be moving to online only instruction for at least the next two weeks. Students are directed to use the Notification of Absence form in Canvas to initiate this notification, which can be found under the "Help" button on the left navigation. (For courses where Canvas is not used, the direct link to the Notification of Absence form can be found through the Division of Student Affairs site.) Additional communication via email is encouraged; students should follow up with their instructor to develop a continued plan of study for each course. Students cannot be penalized in their grade for needing to move to online instruction.
7. Please note that the University may convert to a purely online mode at any time.

Accessibility Statement

Clemson University values the diversity of our student body as a strength and a critical component of our dynamic community. Students with disabilities or temporary injuries/conditions may require accommodations due to barriers in the structure of facilities, course design, technology used for curricular purposes, or other campus resources. Students who experience a barrier to full access to a class should let the instructor know and make an appointment to meet with a staff member in Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible. You can make an appointment by calling 864-656-6848 or by emailing studentaccess@lists.clemson.edu. Students who receive Academic Access Letters are strongly encouraged to request, obtain, and present these to their instructors as early in the semester as possible so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner. It is the student's responsibility to follow this process each semester. You can access further information here:

<http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/sds/>.

Title IX Statement

Clemson University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, veteran's status, genetic information or protected activity in employment, educational programs and activities, admissions and financial aid. This includes a prohibition against sexual harassment and sexual violence as mandated by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The University is committed to combatting sexual harassment and sexual violence. As a result, you should know that University faculty and staff members who work directly with students are required to report any instances of sexual harassment and sexual violence, to the University's Title IX Coordinator. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual harassment, sexual violence or misconduct, stalking, domestic and/or relationship violence that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware. There are two important exceptions to this requirement about which you should be aware:

Confidential Resources and facilitators of sexual awareness programs such as "Take Back the Night and Aspire to be Well" when acting in those capacities, are not required to report incidents of sexual discrimination.

Another important exception to the reporting requirement exists for academic work. Disclosures about sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking, domestic and/or relationship violence that are shared as part of an academic project, a research project, classroom discussion, or course assignment, are not required to be disclosed to the University's Title IX Coordinator.

This policy is located at <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/campus-services/access/title-ix/>. Ms. Alesia Smith is the Executive Director for Equity Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator. Her office is located at 223 Holtzendorff Hall, phone number is 864.656.3181, and email address is alesias@clemson.edu.

Academic Integrity

As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a 'high seminary of learning.' Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form. In instances where academic standards may have been compromised, Clemson University has a responsibility to respond appropriately to charges of violations of academic integrity. Further information on Academic Integrity can be found in the [Undergraduate Announcements](#) and in the [Graduate School Policy Handbook](#).

Copyright Statement

Materials in this course are copyrighted. They are intended for use only by students registered and enrolled in this course and only for instructional activities associated with and for the duration of the course. They may not be retained in another medium or disseminated further. They are provided in compliance with the provisions of the Teach Act. Students should be reminded to refer to the Use of Copyrighted Materials and "Fair Use Guidelines" policy in on the Clemson University website for additional information: <https://clemson.libguides.com/copyright>.

Email Policy

To receive a response, emails must be sent from your Clemson University email address and must include the course number. Dr. Calhoun will respond within 24-hours during weekdays unless on travel.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will have 1 letter grade deducted for each day that they are late. Examples of excused absences include a death in the immediate family or personal conditions requiring hospitalization or emergency treatment. Personal illnesses such as colds, general fatigue, or general sickness are not typically excused. If you are unsure if your situation will be excused, contact the professor in a professional manner prior to or as soon as possible after the missed assignment.

Additional Policies

The instructor reserves the right to modify any aspect of the syllabus at any time during the semester for reasons including but not limited to COVID-related situations.