

# Scholarship Skills

Andrew P Black and David Maier  
Winter 2015

## Module 1: Course Introduction

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David Maier, Tim Sheard,  
Andrew Black,  
Todd Leen.

# Acknowledgements

**Many thanks to David Maier who first developed this course.**

**Many of the slides presented here were based upon slides developed by David Maier.**

**Suggestions for improvement and additions came from 20+ years of students, including**

**Tim Sauerwein &**

**Walid Taha**

**Additional material**

**Todd Leen**

**Tim Sheard**

**Andrew Black**

# Course Mechanics

## Instructors

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## Time: Winter Quarter 2014

- Tuesday: 10:00 – 11:50, and
- Thursday: 10:00 – 10:50
- Classroom: FAB 150
- Class Piazza page: <http://piazza.com/pdx/winter2015/cs669>

# Assesement Scheme

- **No Exams**
- **Exercises**
  - Usually due the class after the one in which they are assigned.
  - Often used in-class the day they are due for peer review activities.
  - graded on a “check off” basis
- **Projects**
  - Six projects:
    1. Annotated bibliography
    2. Revision of a 1-page summary
    3. 5-minute presentation of a paper
    4. 5-page paper on a technical topic
    5. Revision of 5-page paper
    6. 15-minute presentation based on paper above
  - Presentations *outside* of regular class hours, all invited to attend.
  - One week or more allowed for each project.
  - Graded with points

# Grading

- **Tentative Grading Scheme**

- Exercises: 15%
- Projects: 85%
  - Bibliography: 15%
  - Revision of 1-page summary: 10%
  - 5-min. Presentation: 10%
  - 5 page technical paper: 15%
  - Revision of 5 page research paper: 20%
  - 15-min. Presentation: 15%

## As part of this course ...

we will be writing a book!

- lectures are ineffective!
- class time is better used for interactive activities
- how do students become familiar with the basic material that used to be in the lectures?
  - Each student takes responsibility for drafting a book chapter corresponding to a lecture.
  - We will collectively improve the chapters in a writers workshop.
  - Writing a chapter will take the place of some of the exercises
- wanted now: volunteer to be coordinator.
  - knowledge of Redmine an advantage

# Texts

## Required Texts:

- Lyn Dupré. *Bugs in Writing: A Guide to Debugging Your Prose* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition).  
Addison-Wesley, 1998.  
ISBN 020137921X

**Other Useful Books – see Piazza “Course Information” page**

## Policies:

- All deadlines are firm, unless explicitly extended.  
We will be as flexible as possible in accommodating special circumstances; but *advance notice* will make this a lot easier.
- We follow the standard PSU guidelines for academic integrity.
  - Discussion with your classmates is *good*!
  - Reading and critiquing each other's work is *required*.
  - Items turned in should be your own, individual work.

Be *extremely* careful to avoid plagiarism – anything copied verbatim from another source must be typographically distinguished as a *quotation*; the source *must* also be cited.

Paraphrasing and representing someone's ideas as your own are also plagiarism.



# Academic Integrity

**Students are expected to be honest in their academic dealings. Dishonesty is dealt with severely.**

**Homework.** Make an effort to complete every piece of work. Pass in *only* your own work.

**Writing assignments.** Students are expected to do their own writing. Critique of your writing by others is encouraged, but you must *fix your mistakes on your own*.

# PSU Code of Conduct

The Office of Student Affairs at Portland State University maintains Code of Student Conduct and Responsibility. A copy of the full code can be found at <http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct#Code>

The following conduct is proscribed by Portland State University; any student, or student organization, or group engaging in such conduct is subject to disciplinary action:

*All forms of academic dishonesty, cheating, and fraud, including but not limited to: (a) plagiarism, (b) the buying and selling of course assignments and research papers, (c) performing academic assignments (including tests and examinations) for other persons, (d) unauthorized disclosure and receipt of academic information and (e) falsification of research data.*

<http://www.pdx.edu/dos/psu-student-code-conduct#Code>

All expectations of the student conduct code will be enforced strictly in class.

# Plagiarism

**The Writing Center at Portland State University has prepared**

PLAGIARISM: A Guide for Students to assist students in understanding plagiarism and developing strategies on avoiding it.

**A copy of this guide is available at**

**<http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/resources/guide/step09.php#detail5>. Please read it carefully.**

**See <http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/> or**

**<http://www.lib.pdx.edu/instruction/survivalguide/index.htm>**

**Scholarly work resulting from plagiarism or cheating will receive no credit.**

# The Writing Center

**Use it!**

The Writing Center | Contact Us  
<http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu>

# Projects

Projects involve a technical topic of your own choosing, reporting on prior work in that topic area.

## 1. Annotated Bibliography

- A bibliography of at least 10 references in your topic area. Citations and short written descriptions of each paper.

## 2. Revision of a 1 page summary

- 1-page (approx. 500 word) summary of one of the papers from your bibliography

## 3. 5-min. Presentation

- A short (five-minute) presentation that corresponds to your summary paper (Project 2). Presentations will be scheduled outside of class time

# Projects

## 4. First 5-page Paper

- A background paper on a technical topic of 5 pages (~1500 words). It should be a complete paper with abstract, introduction and conclusions.

## 5. Revision of 5-page Paper

- Based on the feedback you have received, and other comments that you have collected, revise P4

## 6. 15-min. Presentation

- Prepare and deliver a 15-minute presentation corresponding to your 5-page paper

# Purpose of Course

**Make you better scholars**

- better researchers
- **better writers**
- **better presenters**
- better reviewers

**Especially writing, and oral presentation**

# Learn to communicate

## Written papers and articles

How to read

How to write

How to judge the writing of others

## Oral Presentations

How to organize an oral presentation

How to present an oral presentation

How to listen to an oral presentation