

Welcome to USC CSCI597!



- This course provides a series of expository lectures to introduce Ph.D. students to the breadth of research topics in CS (and, to some extent, beyond). The idea is to cycle through the subareas of USC research in CS each semester.
- First-year Ph.D. Students are required to enroll for 1 unit of CSCI 597 for the first 2 semesters of the Ph.D. Program. (Applicable only to students enrolling in Summer of 2000 or later.)

Welcome to USC CSCI597!



- **Lectures:** M 12:00-12:50, OHE-122
- **Office Hours:** M 3-5, HNB-30A
- **Grading:** Must attend all lectures and complete all assignments with satisfactory results.
- **Enrollment:** First-year Ph.D. Students are required to enroll for 1 unit of CSCI 597 for the first 2 semesters of the Ph.D. Program.
- **Web site:** <http://iLab.usc.edu/classes/2002cs597f/>

More on grading / assignments



- **Before class** professors will place on the Web:
 - (a) a good expository article on the topic of the talk;
 - (b) a set of 3 questions about the talk and/or paper each of which can be answered in at most a page.
- Students will be required to submit the answer to **ONE question** in the form of hard copy handed in at the following lecture.
- Answers are limited to **ONE page**.

More on grading / assignments



- The lecturer on that topic will submit a simple grade for each essay of:
 - 0 (not submitted, off-topic, or trivial),
 - 1 (passable but based on moderate effort), or
 - 2 (a very good effort).
- To pass you will need to get a cumulative grade of **n+1 or more**, where n is the number of assignments handed out.
- The deadline to hand your essays in is strict: **end of following lecture**.

More on grading / assignments



Please be careful to avoid losing points:

- To pass you will need to get a cumulative grade of **n+1 or more**, where n is the number of assignments handed out.
- The deadline to hand your essays in is strict: **end of following lecture**.
- **Essays will be collected by the TA at the end of the following lecture, and placed into a sealed enveloped that will immediately be shipped to the lecturer.**
- **Email submissions will not be accepted.**
- **Late submissions will not be accepted.**
- A total score of $n+0.99999$ or below **fails** and is not negotiable.

Example 3 questions



On a lecture about neuromorphic vision algorithms, which derive knowledge from studying the brain and transfer it to the development of biologically-inspired machine vision algorithms.

- Why is it a challenge to build machines that “see” while this is so natural to us?
- How do bottom-up and top-down attentional control signals interact during the analysis of a visual scene?
- Give an example and explain how the study of neuroscience and the brain can benefit engineering.

<http://iLab.usc.edu/classes/2002cs597/>

Fall 2002	Topic	Speaker	Status
August 26	<u>Introduction and Ethical Issues in Research</u>	Itti	OK
September 2	Labor Day - No class		OK
September 9	<u>Perceptual Grouping in Computer Vision</u>	Medioni	OK
September 16	<u>TBA title</u>	Billard	--
September 23	<u>TBA title</u>	Shen	OK
September 30	<u>TBA title</u>	Goel	OK
October 7	<u>TBA title</u>	Cohen	OK
October 14	<u>TBA title</u>	Desbrun	OK
October 21	<u>TBA title</u>	Govindan	OK
October 28	<u>TBA title</u>	TBA	--
November 4	<u>TBA title</u>	Papadopoulos	OK
November 11	<u>Teamwork</u>	Tambe	OK
November 18	Nanorobotics	Requicha	OK
November 25	<u>Peer-to-Peer Computing</u>	Horowitz	OK
December 2	Wrap-up and advice on getting a PhD	Itti	OK

Sample Questions



Title: Perceptual Grouping in Computer Vision

Reference:

<http://iris.usc.edu/Outlines/papers/1996/ijcv-96-guy.pdf>

Additional references:

<http://iris.usc.edu/Outlines/papers/1998/iccv98-final.pdf>

<http://iris.usc.edu/Outlines/papers/1999/iccv99-curvature-final.pdf>

<http://www.elsevier.com/inca/publications/store/6/2/0/7/3/1/index.htm>

Questions: (Pick one and answer it as a one-page essay)

1. What do illusions tell us about the Human Visual System
2. How are cameras different from the Human Eye
3. What are the main advantages of "Tensor Voting" over many other methods

Ethical Issues



- Plagiarism: **CAUTION!**
- Evident plagiarism will be **NOTED** and tolerated once, although score for the essay will automatically be zero.
- Any subsequent evident plagiarism will result in **filing with student conduct.**
- Lecturers will pay much attention to plagiarism issues.

Ethical Issues



- What is plagiarism?

Using others' work and misrepresenting it as being your own.

This includes:

- Cut & paste from the reading assignment
- Cut & paste from the web
- Cut & paste from books, other papers, etc.
- Cut & paste from **ANYTHING** that is not your own!
- Changing wording of a sentence but keeping the ideas
- Summary which does not include proper references
- Etc.

Careful, careful!

- There was way too much Plagiarism detected last Semester.

Please follow the following Guidelines very carefully and Learn as much as you can About avoiding plagiarism!

• last 3lter	Prasen	Dasbr	lgpaa	Hoids	Kazri	Meter	Jahar	Hell	Braa	Meestie	GRADE		
60447	2++	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	18	PASS
16702	2	1	0*	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	13	PASS
61752	1*	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	17	PASS
01572	1*	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	17	PASS
61067	2	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	9	FAIL
21462	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	17	PASS
60581	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	0	14	PASS
88992	1*	1	1	1	2	2	2+	2	2	1	2	17	PASS
88273	1*	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	15	PASS
61749	2	2	1	2	1	1	2+	2	1	1	2	17	PASS
88733	1*	0	1	1	1	0*	1	1	2	1	1	10	FAIL
60481	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	15	PASS
88259	1*	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	2	11	FAIL
88023	2	1	0	1	0	0*	2	2	1	1	2	12	PASS
88517	2	1	1	2	2	0*	2	0	1	2	1	14	PASS
55286	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	11	FAIL
88162	2	1	1	1	1	1	0*	1	1	2	1	12	PASS
88032	2	2	1	2	1*	1	2	2	1	1	2	17	PASS
40576	2	2	0**	1	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	12	PASS
62392	2++	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	19	PASS
88984	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	15	PASS
62347	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	16	PASS
53103	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	17	PASS
88694	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	0*	1	2	13	PASS
62620	2	1	1	1	2	2	1*	2	0	2	2	16	PASS
16592	2	1	1	1	2	1*	2	2	1	1	2	16	PASS
61983	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	16	PASS
88635	2	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	10	FAIL
88275	1*	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0*	1	11	FAIL
45341	0	0	0	2	2	1	2	2	1	0	0	11	FAIL
41706	2	1	1	1*	1	0*	2	2	2	1	1	14	PASS
62915	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	10	FAIL
60067	2	2	0	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	2	15	PASS
88032	2	1	1	1	1	1	1.5	2	1	0	1	12	PASS
88351	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	12	PASS
88284	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	15	PASS
88408	1*	1	0**	0*	1	0*	1*	2	0*	1	2	9	FAIL
62852	1*	1	1	1	1	0	1.5	2	1	1	1	12	FAIL
88244	2	0	1	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	2	13	PASS
88611	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	15	PASS
88918	0	2	1	1	1	0	1.5	1	1	2	1	12	FAIL
61900	1	2	1	1	1	0*	1	0	1	0*	1	9	FAIL
60911	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	16	PASS
10213	1	0*	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	15	PASS
66744	0**	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	15	PASS
88063	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	0*	1	1	11	FAIL
88561	1*	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	15	PASS
61712	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	13	PASS
48918	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	10	FAIL
88252	2++	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	0	1	0	12	PASS
51790	2++	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	16	PASS
12525	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	14	PASS
60129	1*	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	12	PASS
61111	2	2	1	2	1	0	2++	2	1	1	1	15	PASS
64540	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	12	PASS
23835	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	9	FAIL
88238	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	15	PASS
62532	2	1	2	0	1	0*	2	1	1	0	2	12	PASS
06754	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	0	2	16	PASS
88537	2	1	1	1*	0**	1	2	1	1	1	1	12	PASS
43132	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	14	PASS
45551	2	2	1	1	0	2	2+	0	1	2	1	14	PASS
56952	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	17	PASS
88293	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	16	PASS
88775	1*	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	15	PASS
33709	1*	1	0**	2	1	1	2+	1	1	2	1	13	PASS
88242	2	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	0	0	12	PASS
52578	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	5	FAIL
55240	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	13	PASS
88515	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	16	PASS
88298	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	15	PASS
88249	2	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	2	13	PASS
48133	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	14	PASS
60731	2	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	0*	2	2	13	PASS
27804	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	15	PASS
61673	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	16	PASS
50149	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	FAIL
88675	1*	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	17	PASS
61225	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	0*	2	2	12	PASS
06672	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	10	FAIL
60075	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	2	13	PASS
88268	1*	0*	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	2	1	11	FAIL
88151	2	1	1	1	1	1*	2	2	1	2	2	16	PASS
88719	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	16	PASS
88935	2	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	12	PASS
41873	1**	0*	1	1	1	1.5	2	1	1	2	2	13	PASS
88044	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	15	PASS

* = too much plagiarism/uncited work
 ** = did not address the question
 -- = did not submit any homework
 # grade 87
 # pass 63
 # fail 19
 % pass 88

Ethical issues



This and the following slides are from:

http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/ug_plag.htm

"Plagiarism is the unacknowledged and inappropriate use of the ideas or wording of another writer."

As defined in the University Student Conduct Code (published in the current SCampus), plagiarism includes:

"The submission of material authored by another person but represented as the student's own work, whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near verbatim form;"

"The submission of material subjected to editorial revision by another person that results in substantive changes in content or major alteration of writing style;" and

"Improper acknowledgment of sources in essays or papers." (§11.11)

Example 1: Repeating Another's Words Without Acknowledgment



Original Source (From Neil Postman. *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. New York: Penguin, 1985. 127-128.)

“The television commercial is the most peculiar and pervasive form of communication to issue forth from the electric plug....The move away from the use of propositions in commercial advertising began at the end of the nineteenth century. But it was not until the 1950's that the television commercial made linguistic discourse obsolete as the basis for product decisions. By substituting images for claims, the pictorial commercial made emotional appeal, not tests of truth, the basis of consumer decisions.”

Example 1: Repeating Another's Words Without Acknowledgment



Plagiarized Version (*essentially verbatim*):

“Television commercials have made language obsolete as a basis for making decisions about products. The pictorial commercial has substituted images for claims and thereby made emotional appeal, rather than tests of truth, the basis of consumer decisions.”

Example 1: Repeating Another's Words Without Acknowledgment



Plagiarized Version (*essentially verbatim*):

“Television commercials have made language obsolete as a basis for making decisions about products. The pictorial commercial has substituted images for claims and thereby made emotional appeal, rather than tests of truth, the basis of consumer decisions.”

*Although the writer has changed, rearranged, and deleted words in the version above, the text is essentially the same as the original source. In paraphrasing, you take the writer's ideas and put them in your own words. It is **not** a process of substituting synonyms or rearranging the order of words. Even if the version above gave credit to Postman for his ideas, the passage would be considered plagiarized.*

Example 1: Repeating Another's Words Without Acknowledgment



Correctly Paraphrased and Documented Version:

“Postman argues that television commercials do not use language or “test of truth” to help viewers decide whether to buy a product. Instead, they rely on images to create an emotional appeal that influences consumers' decisions (127-128).”

Example 1: Repeating Another's Words Without Acknowledgment



Correctly Paraphrased and Documented Version:

"Postman argues that television commercials do not use language or "test of truth" to help viewers decide whether to buy a product. Instead, they rely on images to create an emotional appeal that influences consumers' decisions (127-128)."

*In the correctly paraphrased and documented version above, **most of the ideas** have been paraphrased or restated in the writer's own words. Quotation marks have been placed around a key phrase that is taken directly from the original source. In addition, the name of the author refers readers to a corresponding entry in the Works Cited page, and the page number indicates the location of the information in the source cited.*

Example 2: Presenting Another Writer's Argument or Point of View Without Acknowledgment

Original Source (From Arlene Skolnick. *Embattled Paradise*. New York: Basic Books, 1991. 11.):

"The changes in larger society, as well as their reverberations in the family, call into question basic assumptions about the nature of American society, its family arrangements, and Americans themselves. A "Cultural struggle" ensues as people debate the meaning of change. One of these periods of cultural upheaval occurred in the early decades of the nineteenth century; a second occurred in the decades just before and after the turn of the twentieth century. For the last thirty years, we have been living through another such wave of social change.

Three related structural changes seem to have set the current cycle of family change in motion: first, the shift into a "postindustrial" information and service economy; second, a demographic revolution that not only created mass longevity but reshaped the individual and family life course, creating life stages and circumstances unknown to earlier generations; third, a process I call "psychological gentrification," which involves an introspective approach to experience, a greater sense of one's own individuality and subjectivity, a concern with self-fulfillment and self-development. This is the change misdiagnosed as narcissism."

Example 2: Presenting Another Writer's Argument or Point of View Without Acknowledgment



Plagiarized Version:

“Three periods of cultural upheaval in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have caused major changes in American society. The first occurred during the beginning of the nineteenth century, the second during the decades before and after 1900, and the third has been underway for the last thirty years. Three structural changes occurring during the current upheaval are primarily responsible for changes in American families. These include the development of a postindustrial information and service economy , demographics changes (including longer life spans that have created new and different life stages), and an increased sense of individuality including a desire for self-fulfillment and self development.”

Example 2: Presenting Another Writer's Argument or Point of View Without Acknowledgment



Plagiarized Version:

“Three periods of cultural upheaval in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have caused major changes in American society. The first occurred during the beginning of the nineteenth century, the second during the decades before and after 1900, and the third has been underway for the last thirty years. Three structural changes occurring during the current upheaval are primarily responsible for changes in American families. These include the development of a postindustrial information and service economy , demographics changes (including longer life spans that have created new and different life stages), and an increased sense of individuality including a desire for self-fulfillment and self development.”

The writer of the passage above correctly paraphrases Skolnick's ideas but does not give her credit for her ideas or line of argument. The version on the next slide eliminates the plagiarism by attributing the ideas to Skolnick.

Example 2: Presenting Another Writer's Argument or Point of View Without Acknowledgment



Correctly Documented Version

“According to Skolnick, three periods of cultural upheaval in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have caused major changes in American society. The first occurred during the beginning of the nineteenth century, the second during the decades before and after 1900, and the third has been underway for the last thirty years. Three structural changes occurring during the current upheaval are primarily responsible for changes in American families. These include the development of a postindustrial information and service economy, demographics changes (including longer life spans that have created new and different life stages), and an increased sense of individuality including a desire for self-fulfillment and self development (11).”

Example 2: Presenting Another Writer's Argument or Point of View Without Acknowledgment

Correctly Documented Version

“According to Skolnick, three periods of cultural upheaval in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries have caused major changes in American society. The first occurred during the beginning of the nineteenth century, the second during the decades before and after 1900, and the third has been underway for the last thirty years. Three structural changes occurring during the current upheaval are primarily responsible for changes in American families. These include the development of a postindustrial information and service economy, demographics changes (including longer life spans that have created new and different life stages), and an increased sense of individuality including a desire for self-fulfillment and self development (11).”

In the version above, a reader would be able to locate the source by finding the title of Skolnick's book in the Works Cited page and looking on page 11, the number indicated at the end of the paragraph.

Example 3: Repeating Another Writer's Particularly Apt Phrase or Term Without Acknowledgment



Original Source (From Arlene Skolnick. *Embattled Paradise*. New York: Basic Books, 1991. 11.)

“Three related structural changes seem to have set the current cycle of family change in motion: first, the shift into a “postindustrial” information and service economy; second, a demographic revolution that not only created mass longevity but reshaped the individual and family life course, creating life stages and circumstances unknown to early generations; third, a process I call “psychological gentrification,” which involves an introspective approach to experience, a greater sense of one's own individuality and subjectivity, a concern with self-fulfillment and self-development. This is the change misdiagnosed as narcissism.”

Example 3: Repeating Another Writer's Particularly Apt Phrase or Term Without Acknowledgment



Plagiarized Version

The large number of "self-help" books published each year attest to Americans' concern with self-improvement and achieving more fulfilling lives. This process might be described as "psychological gentrification."

Correctly Documented Version

The large number of self-help books published each year attest to Americans' concern with self-improvement and their desire to have a more fulfilling life. Skolnick labels this process as "psychological gentrification" (11).

Example 3: Repeating Another Writer's Particularly Apt Phrase or Term Without Acknowledgment

Plagiarized Version

The large number of "self-help" books published each year attest to Americans' concern with self-improvement and achieving more fulfilling lives. This process might be described as "psychological gentrification."

Correctly Documented Version

The large number of self-help books published each year attest to Americans' concern with self-improvement and their desire to have a more fulfilling life. Skolnick labels this process as "psychological gentrification" (11).

As the example above illustrates, putting quotation marks around a borrowed word or phrase is not sufficient documentation. You must also acknowledge the author and give the page numbers so a reader would be able to consult the original source and locate the word or phrase. In the original source, Skolnick takes credit ("a process I call") for coining the term "psychological gentrification." Quotation marks in the original appear to be used for emphasis. Phrases in quotations should be cited unless they have become common usage (e.g., "postindustrial" in the original source above).

Remember...



- When you write a paper, you'll remember all nice phrases you come up with. This applies to the professors who wrote your assigned reading too!
- Professors can "feel" plagiarism very easily
- Professors often conduct extensive searches to check for plagiarism
- Professors are likely to know or have seen the material you come across when writing your essay

So... yes, do research and find material that can help you writing your essay. But do not plagiarize that material!

Suggestion: A good method



- Read the assigned reading
- Look for additional material that can help you write the essay

- Put everything away

- Write the essay, not looking at the material you have, so that you will be forced to use your own words

- Add proper citations and references to the material you used

For additional information



- **SCampus**
- <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct/>
- **Office for Student Conduct**
FIG-107
740-6666
- Google search for “plagiarism,” etc.