

**CS519 – Sensemaking in Software development**  
**Winter 2016: TR: 4:00-5:20**  
<http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~sarmaa/index/cs519-2016/>

**Instructor**

**Dr. Anita Sarma** (2063 KEC)

**Office hours:** W: 5:00-6:00 pm, or by appointment

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Use 'CS 519' in subject line for a response

**Education Method:** This is not a lecture-oriented class. The class is very active-learning based. Thus, it will be quite critique-oriented, with student presentations and analyses regarding research papers and with a strong element of group critiques as work begins to emerge. No textbook -- we will be reading papers instead.

**Topics to be covered:** The course will draw from both emerging research and from fundamentals established over the last 20+ years. Therefore, students should come away with a fundamental understanding of:

- What is known about human factors in software development
- Techniques to perform qualitative data analysis
- Overview of different processes involved in software development
- Overview of information need and information seeking behavior
- Critical thinking about information needs and sensemaking in software development.
- Critical thinking about doing quality research.

**Course Pre-Requisite:** Graduate standing in CS and interest in human factors in software development

**Grading**

- 20% Homework. (Late policy: No late homeworks accepted.)
- 20% Presentations and other in-class contributions. There will be a firm time limit, including discussion time, on each presentation.)
- 20% "hands-on test" of ability to apply concepts from the class Your task will be to turn in a written evaluation of the human aspects of some projects I will assign to you by applying what you have learned in this course.
- 40% Final project

**Grading Scheme:**

<b>A+ : 101 +</b>	<b>A: 93-100</b>	<b>A-: 90-92</b>	
<b>B+: 87-89</b>	<b>B: 83-86</b>	<b>B-: 80-82</b>	
<b>C+: 77-79</b>	<b>C: 73-76</b>	<b>C-: 70-72</b>	
<b>D+: 67-69</b>	<b>D: 63-66</b>	<b>D-: 60-62</b>	<b>F: 0-59</b>

**A minimum grade of C** is required to get a Pass in the course (A grade 'C-' does NOT get you a pass)

**Gadget policy:** No cell phones, iPods, or Laptops allowed in class unless needed for class. Failure to follow will lead to penalty

**Academic Misconduct**

All homework assignments, quizzes, exams, etc. must be your own work. No direct collaboration with fellow students, past or current, is allowed unless otherwise stated.

**Special Needs**

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact **the instructor or the TA** for a confidential discussion of your individual needs for academic accommodation.