

CS 697:

Graduate Initiation Seminar

Introduction, Class Structure, Logistics, and Objectives

Marco Gaboardi
gaboardi@bu.edu

Adam Smith
ads22@bu.edu

Marco Gaboardi

- Ph.D. 2007 from University of Torino (Italy) and INPL (France)
- Research in:
Programming Languages Theory
Data Privacy
- Joined BU 2019
- Previously: Buffalo, Dundee (Scotland)
- Office Hours: on Zoom by appointment



Adam Smith



- Ph.D. 2004 MIT
- Research in:
data privacy, cryptography, and their connections to
machine learning, statistics, information theory, and
quantum computing
- Joined BU 2017
- Previously: Penn State
- Office Hours:
 - Tuesdays 11am-noon, Thursdays 3:15-4:15 pm

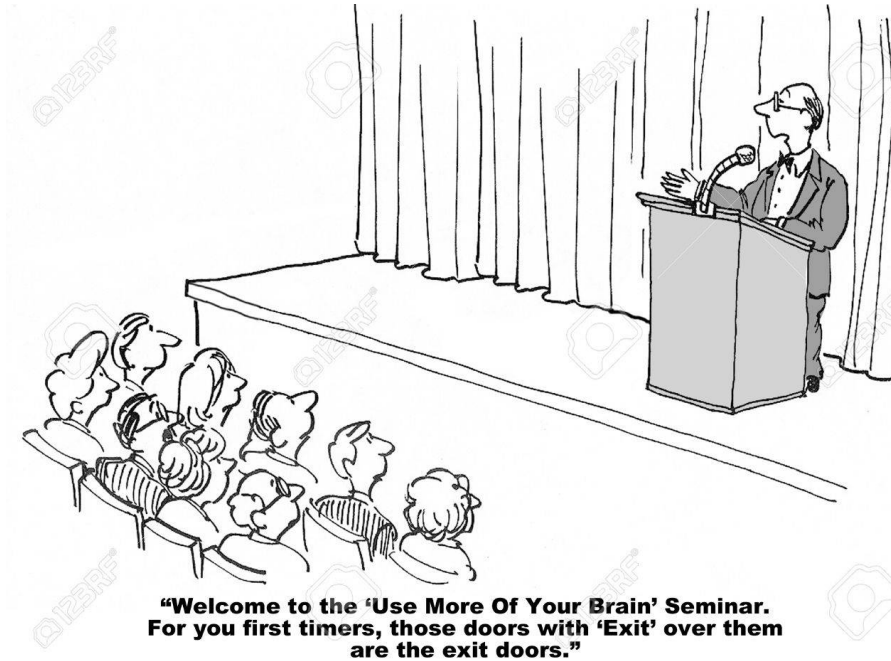
What is this class about?



Helping you with:

- Transition into the graduate program.
- Understand the skills that will help you in this journey.
- Understand where this journey can take you.

How this class will help you?



Seminar style:

- Discussion with your peers (facilitated by us).
- Touching on different aspects of the phd life.
- Hands on experience: presenting, reviewing and writing.

Schedule

Sign up now: <https://tinyurl.com/bu-cs697-s21-signup>

1	1/29/21	Introduction
2	2/5/21	Choosing and managing a relationship with your advisor
3	2/12/21	Identifying and reading research papers
4	2/19/21	Reviewing research papers
5	2/26/21	Writing research papers, and being an effective writer
6	3/5/21	Presenting research work: how to be a good communicator
7	3/12/21	Experimental design and data analysis
8	3/19/21	Academic conduct: truth in reporting and conflict of interest
9	3/26/21	Whose idea is it? Acknowledging and building on other work, or just plain plagiarism?
10	4/2/21	Time management
11	4/9/21	Opportunities mid-PhD: internships, fellowships, grants and funding
12	4/16/21	Life after your PhD: Finding a job, academic careers versus industry and research labs
13	4/23/21	Discussion with senior PhD students

Assignments

1. Participate in all classes
2. Prepare and lead two discussions
3. Written Review
Read a paper and write a conference style review. Peer evaluation.
4. Technical Paper
Write a technical report in a style similar to that in peer-reviewed conferences and journals.
 - Details on the review and paper TBA.
 - Discuss the review and paper topics ahead of time, to make sure the effort you spend aligns well with your goals.

How to prepare discussions

- Read the materials we suggest
- Add new materials/links
- Prepare slides and questions for discussion
- Post on Piazza one day ahead with reading suggestions for the class

Introductions

Two minutes
(or less)

- Your name and what we should call you
- Where you were before BU
- Research areas / topics of interest
- Advisor, if you have one
- One or two fun things about you
(hobby, unusual experience, favorite epic poem, whatever)

Questions?