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](https://tinyurl.com/bu-cs697-s21-signup)

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<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Choosing and managing a relationship with your advisor</td>
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<td>Identifying and reading research papers</td>
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<td>Reviewing research papers</td>
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<td>Writing research papers, and being an effective writer</td>
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<td>Presenting research work: how to be a good communicator</td>
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<td>Experimental design and data analysis</td>
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<td>Academic conduct: truth in reporting and conflict of interest</td>
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<td>Whose idea is it? Acknowledging and building on other work, or just plain plagiarism?</td>
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<td>Life after your PhD: Finding a job, academic careers versus industry and research labs</td>
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<td>Discussion with senior PhD students</td>
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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?