School of STEM: Department of Mathematical, Information and Computer Sciences

CSC/ISS/MTH4133—Service Learning

3 Units

Fall 2025

W 2:45-5:30pm

Rohr Science 295

Final Exam: Wednesday, 12/17, 1:30-4:00pm

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Office Location and Office Hours: Rohr Science 228, times posted on Canvas

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department Mission

The Mathematical, Information, and Computer Sciences department at Point Loma Nazarene University is committed to maintaining a curriculum that provides its students with the tools to be productive, the passion to continue learning, and Christian perspectives to provide a basis for making sound value judgments.

Course Description

Students working in teams design and implement a project using a broad spectrum of computer science, mathematics, and/or natural science knowledge to meet the needs of a community organization or the university.

Program and Course Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to apply their technical knowledge to solve problems.
2. Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization.
3. Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization.
4. Students will collaborate effectively in teams.
5. Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand.
6. Students will be able to gather relevant information, examine information and form a conclusion based on that information.
7. Students will be able to understand and create arguments supported by quantitative evidence, and they can clearly communicate those arguments in a variety of formats.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

There are no texts for this class.

All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

Assessment and Grading

Grading distribution:

- Skills presentation: 10%
- Ethics presentation: 5%
- Mid-semester presentation: 5%
- Weekly progress reports: 20%
- Poster: 15%
- Elevator speech: 5%
- Peer evaluations: 10%
- Project paper: 20%
- Team assignments: 10%

Grades will be based on the following:

- **Skills presentation:** This is a team grade as skills presentations will be made in teams of 2-3. However, if one person is missing or does not speak, that individual will receive a zero. The presentation should cover material requested by the professor. The presentation is expected to be 15-20 minutes and should include a 5-minute exercise for the class to complete.
- **Ethics presentation:** Our work is not just about what we do, but how we do it, keeping in mind how it will affect society. Each student should have thoroughly read and contemplated the

paper and prepared a brief synopsis along with 3-4 discussion questions for class consideration based on that paper.

- **Mid-semester presentation:** This is a team grade as mid-semester presentations will be made in teams of 2-3. However, if one person is missing or does not speak, that individual will receive a zero. Progress on the project will be judged by your presentation, and failure to show adequate progress on your project can result in large deductions.
- **Weekly progress reports:** A recounting of what you, as an individual, completed towards the project. Points can be regained in this category if a dramatic contribution was made the week after points were missed.
- **Poster:** Your poster will be presented to a wide audience. This is a team grade as posters are made and presented in teams of 2-3. However, if one person does not participate, that individual will receive a zero.
- **Elevator speech:** The elevator speech shows that an individual is familiar enough with the project to present an interesting summary in 30-60 seconds. This is an individual grade and will be developed in anticipation of the poster presentation.
- **Peer evaluations:** These are expected to be honest assessments of the contribution of your team members. Points will be deducted from the evaluation that you complete if the professor believes that the evaluation is not a true representation of reality (in other words, that you are just trying to be nice to a friend).
- **Project paper:** The project paper is an individual grade. It will be based on the individual sections being turned in and revised as requested. Credit is not given if the sections are not turned in on time. Points may also be deducted if you are absent on a day when peer reviews take place or if the final quality of the paper is poor.
- **Team assignments:** Team assignments may include, but are not limited to, development of the problem statement and management plans, client meetings, client approvals, poster draft, and reflections.
- **Late work will not be accepted.** Assignments that are submitted late will be recorded with a score of zero. No presentation shall be missed without a well-documented emergency beyond your control. A score of zero will be assigned for a presentation that is missed without a well-documented emergency beyond your control.

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages

A	B	C	D	F
A [92.5-100]	B+ [87.5-90)	C+ [77.5-80)	D+ [67.5-70)	F [0-60)
A- [90-92.5)	B [82.5-87.5)	C [72.5-77.5)	D [62.5-67.5)	
	B- [80-82.5)	C- [70-72.5)	D- [60-62.5)	

Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for <u>one</u> of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2533). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. Professors are able to view a student's approved accommodations through Accommodate.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any accommodations.

Additional Course Information

Additional PLNU policies and practices that apply to this course can be found at the following link:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/11BgAANLOJ9tjt837d24EZ181ukM2qzHF/edit

	Week	Wednesday	What's Due
September	1	3 Discuss and sign up for projects Discuss first client meeting Discuss working in teams Email the client Discuss and sign up for skills presentations	TA: Problem statement and plan for client meeting Progress report 1
	2	10 Discuss and sign up for ethics presentations Discuss project scheduling	TA: First client meeting report Progress report 2
	3	17 Skills presentations 1 – 3 Discuss Gantt charts	TA: Gantt chart Progress report 3
	4	24 Skills presentations 4 – 5 Discuss technical writing	TA: Second client meeting report Progress report 4 Paper outline
October	5	1 Team meetings (on Zoom)	Progress report 5 Paper introduction (draft)
	6	8 Ethics presentations 1 – 3 Peer review introduction section Plan mid-semester presentations	Progress report 6 Paper introduction (final)
	7	15 Mid-semester presentations 1 – 5	Progress report 7 Mid-semester peer evaluations Paper methods (draft)
	8	22 Ethics presentations 4 – 6 Peer review methods section Discuss poster	TA: Third client meeting report Progress report 8 Paper methods (final)
	9	29 Team meetings (on Zoom)	Progress report 9 Poster (draft) Paper results (draft)
November	10	5 Ethics presentations 7 – 9 Peer review poster Peer review results section	Progress report 10 Paper results (final)
	11	12 Ethics presentations 10 – 12 Peer review poster Discuss elevator speech	Elevator speech Progress report 11 Paper conclusion and abstract (draft)
	12	19 Ethics presentations 13 – 15 Peer review conclusions section and abstract	Progress report 12 Paper conclusion and abstract (final)
	13	26 Thanksgiving Break	
December	14	3 Poster Presentations	Progress report 13
	15	10 Final client meeting Project validation	TA: Final client meeting report Progress report 14 Final peer evaluations
	16	17 Finals	Week