	Department: Mathematical, Information and Computer Sciences Class: CSC4081/ISS4081/MTH4081 Senior Seminar Number of Units: 1 Class Time/Location: M 4:00-5:15 PM in RS395 Final: 4:30-7:00 PM Wednesday May 7, 2025
	Spring 2025

Instructor: Maria Zack, Ph.D.
Phone: 619.849.2458
Email: mzack@pointloma.edu
Office hours: In Person or Google Meet. [Use this linkLinks to an external site.](#) to book an appointment. These are the times that I work to hold open for appointments. If none of them work you can email me to see if we can find another time. You can come to my office or join via Google meetings. My office is RS246. Monday 1:00-2:00 PM Tuesday 8:30-10:00 AM and 1:00-2:00 PM Wednesday 1:45-2:45 PM Thursday 8:30-10:00 AM Friday 2:00-3:00 PM

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

CSC 4081 Senior Seminar in Computer Science (1 Unit)
ISS 4081 Senior Seminar in Information Systems (1 unit)
MTH 4082 Senior Seminar in Mathematics (1 unit)

This one-unit capstone course is a seminar in which students give lectures on topics of general interest in computer science. Issues related to vocation and calling are also discussed.

Credit/No Credit.
Prerequisite(s): One
of CSC 4102, CSC 4133, HON 4098, ISS 4072, ISS 4102, ISS 4133, MTH 4102, MTH 4133, or MTH4142 and Senior standing (or Junior standing if a December graduate).

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

CSC4081

- Students will be able to apply their technical knowledge and critical thinking to solve problems. (CC: CT)
- Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: OC)
- Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: WC)
- Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand. (CC: IL)
- Students will understand the professional, ethical and social issues and responsibilities with the implementation and use of technology.

ISS4081

- Students will be able to apply their technical knowledge and critical thinking to solve problems. (CC: CT)
- Students will demonstrate general knowledge of theories and practices in information systems.
- Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: OC)
- Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: WC)
- Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand. (CC: IL)
- Students will understand the professional, ethical and social issues and responsibilities with the implementation and use of technology.

MTH4081

- Students will be able to apply their mathematical knowledge and critical thinking to solve problems. (CC: CT)
- Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: OC)
- Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: WC)
- Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand. (CC: IL)
- Students will understand the professional, ethical and social issues and responsibilities with the implementation and use of mathematical models and technology.

Assessed in this class:

- Students will be able to speak about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: OC)
- Students will be able to write about their work with precision, clarity and organization. (CC: WC)
- Students will be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively and responsibly use and cite information for the task at hand. (CC: IL)

Signature Assignment: A final project presentation and a paper.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

There are no text books for this course.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 1 unit class delivered over fifteen weeks.

Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request. (Based on 37.5 hours of student engagement per credit hour.)

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Graded Components

- **Preparation Tasks:** This includes taking a syllabus quiz, identifying your project topic, submitting the check-point documents from your meetings with your advisor.
- **Vocation Reflections:** You will be given a reading from the PLNU Vocation Reader (the readings will be in Canvas) and some reflection questions. Please see the schedule for the weeks with vocation reflections.
- **Vocation Group Discussion Summaries:** In the weeks where there is a vocation reflection, there will be in-class small group discussions, you are responsible for writing a brief summary of the main points of the discussion.
- **Resume and Cover Letter:** There is a multistep process for refining your resume and cover letter and your final submission will be both the letter and the resume customized for a specific job application.
- **Project Preparation:** Your project development will have several check points including outlines and draft PowerPoint slides.
- **In-Class Writing Assignment:** Near the end of the first quad you will be summarizing your project in an in-class writing exercise. This is to help you identify any gaps in your project before the presentations begin. You will be shown the rubric for this writing assignment to guide you.
- **Peer Project Evaluations:** The second half of the class will consistent of each student presenting their project. You will be expected to provide feedback/take notes on each presentation and turn it in.
- **Final Project:** Near the start of the semester you will work with a faculty member in your major to select a topic for an oral (10 minutes + 3 minutes for questions) report. This should be done using technology and terminology standard to your discipline. The project presentations will be scored by faculty using a rubric which you will see. Your topic must include things that you have learned outside of regular coursework.

  You may report on your honors thesis, your service learning project, your internship, or a topic from your discipline that you want to learn more about. If the report is based on work done with a group, you must do your own unique presentation and report. The material must not overlap substantially with material presented by others in the class. It may be necessary to do additional work or to concentrate on different aspects of your project. Be sure to discuss this with your advisor before working on your report or presentation.

- **Final Exam Policy:** Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day (in this case it means being present for final presentations). 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 one 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.

- **Late work will not be accepted** without prior consent or a well-documented emergency.
- The class schedule includes the dates of project presentations. You are expected to be present for all of them unless you have a provost-excused absence. This instructor does not intend to accept excuses such as poor communication with parents, benefactors, and/or travel agents as a reason for missing the presentations of your fellow students.

Grading Distribution	Percent
Preparation Tasks	5
Vocation Reflections	20
Vocation Group Discussion Summaries	5
Resume and Cover Letter	15
Project Preparation	15
In Class Writing Assignment	5
Peer Project Evaluations	10
Final Project	25
Total	100

Grading Scale

Grades are based on the number of points accumulated throughout the course with the following exception. A student must pass both the Writing Assignment and the Final Project in order to pass the class. That is, a score of at least 60% must be achieved on both, or else the final grade will be an F regardless of all other point totals. Approximate minimal percentages required to obtain a given grade are:

Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages					
	A	B	C	D	F
+		87.5- 90	77.5-80	67.5-70	
	92.5 -100	82.5-87.5	72.5-77.5	62.5 -67.5	0-60
_	90-92.5	80-82.5	70-72.5	60-62.5	

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.

CLASS ENROLLMENT

It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the university), not the instructor. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through to arrange for a change of registration (drop/add) may easily result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

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 or search for references, 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 ACCOMODATIONS 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 619-849-2486). 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. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

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 special accommodations.

ADDITIONAL PLNU POLICIES FOR THIS COURSE

Additional PLNU policies and practices that apply to this course can be found at the following link: https://docs.google.com/document/d/18i1pUoY0iCfB8w7JKxVvACQW309X-JRB/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=116164865489739533893&rtpof=true&sd=true

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Sat Jan 18, 2025	Assignment [Syllabus Quiz](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Topic Selection Information](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Jan 25, 2025	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 1](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Cover Letters: Preparation for Next Week](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Resumes: Preparation for Next Week](#)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 27, 2025	Page [Tools for Resume and Cover Letter Work](#)	to do: 4pm
Wed Jan 29, 2025	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 1 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 1, 2025	Assignment [Cover Letter Draft](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Resume Draft](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 2](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 5, 2025	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 2 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 8, 2025	Assignment [Outline Draft 1](#)	due by 3:59pm
	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 3](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 12, 2025	Assignment [Advisor Outline Review](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 3 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 15, 2025	Assignment [Outline Draft 2](#)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 4](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 19, 2025	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 4 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 22, 2025	Assignment [Final Report Outline](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 5](#)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 24, 2025	Assignment [Writing Assignment](#)	due by 5:15pm
Wed Feb 26, 2025	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 5 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Mar 1, 2025	Assignment [PowerPoint Draft](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 6](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 5, 2025	Assignment [Advisor PowerPoint Review](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Group Vocation Discussion 6 Summary](#)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 17, 2025	Assignment [Self-Evaluation Using Rubric](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 19, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 1](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Final Version of Cover Letter](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Mar 22, 2025	Assignment [Final Version of Resume](#)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment [Job Advertisement for Resume and Cover Letter](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 26, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 2](#)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Wed Apr 2, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 3](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 9, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 4](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 16, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 5](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 30, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 6](#)	due by 11:59pm
Sat May 3, 2025	Assignment [Vocation Reflection 7](#)	due by 11:59pm
Mon May 5, 2025	Assignment [Final PowerPoint](#)	due by 11:59pm
Wed May 7, 2025	Assignment [Oral Report Score](#)	due by 11:59pm
Thu May 8, 2025	Assignment [Peer Evaluation of Presentations 7](#)	due by 11:59pm