CSC-326, Syllabus

Fernanda M. Eliott, Ph.D.


This course combines software development theory with hands-on practice on a real project prototype. You will lead your group to develop an actual project prototype and deliver it to a community partner. To help you build background knowledge, we emphasize theory in the first few weeks, but you will progressively work and lead your group project. **Course Outcomes.** Develop leadership skills and practices and solidify your background in software development. Also, make a substantial addition to your professional portfolio.

**Instructor Info**

Fernanda M. Eliott, Ph.D. (she/her/hers), eliottfe@grinnell.edu

**Textbooks**

- Ruby on Rails Tutorial (Rails 6), Michael Hartl.

**Learning Objectives**

1. Reflect about leadership positions and gain experience as a leader of an Agile development team.
2. Develop skills to bridge theoretical readings with real practices while coaching and engaging with your group project.
3. Deepen previous experiences with real-world software development:
   - Communicating with clients;
   - Leading and collaborating with your group project;
   - Making design decisions that may have long-term consequences;
   - Addressing conflict, practical and ethical dilemmas.
Grade Setup

• 40% Group Project.
• 60% Leadership Milestones.

Course Instructions

• Course Webpage.
  • This is an online course. To access its content, log into Pioneer-Web, and click on the “Start here” button.
  • In the first week of classes, you MUST access the “Start here” button and submit the activities described there.

• Synchronous activities on Zoom.
• The lab time is reserved for work time and project meetings (MS teams).
• Group work: only ONE report per group.

Community

• Coffee Chats once a week: a space for us to chat and have informal conversations the same way as we would during those 10-20 minutes before/after class. (Optional.)

• TeaM Chats are designed to help to build community and meaningful interactions. Each group must socialize and spend at least 10 minutes (every week) to chat about non-course related topics.

• Monday motivators will be sent your way every week to help you keep track of the course content and activities.

Policy - Expectations

• Team Spirit. Collaborate, respect, be friendly, and learn from your peers. Disagreements may happen, and those play an essential role in your self-development: see those as an opportunity for developing your leadership skills.

• Interaction. You are expected to lead and stay in constant communication with your group. (Make sure your group is meeting at least two times a week, and having at least one TeaM chat).

• Leadership. You are expected to help your group identify effective ways to communicate and accomplish weekly tasks.

• Evaluations. At the end of the course, group members will rate each other. That will influence your final grade.
• **Honorable Conduct.** We appreciate privacy, honorable conduct, and team spirit *(kindly read our Academic Integrity Policy).* Never record your classmates or share any content that does not follow the instructions provided by your instructor.

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**Life Events**

Circumstances may change. If you experience anything that impacts your learning and/or promptness to submit the deliverables, let me know, and let me help you. The most important message here is communication.

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**Accessibility and Inclusion**

• I am here to help you advance and be successful in your academic journey! We all learn and get inspired differently, and accommodations help us to achieve our goals.

• If any aspect of the course prevents you from learning or excludes you, please let me know as soon as possible! I am happy to chat and looking forward to finding, together with you, strategies that fulfill both: your needs and the course requirements.

• Grinnell College has a robust and supportive network of people and services ready to support you; for example: the Accessibility and Disability Services; Writing, Reading, Speaking Center; Academic Advising; Student Affairs, including International Student Affairs (OISA); the Center for Religion, Spirituality and Social Justice (CRSSJ); or Student Health and Wellness (SHAW); finally, confidential support is available through the Office of the Ombuds.

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**Religious Observances**

• Kindly contact me if you would like to talk about alternative options to complete academic work due to religious holy days.

• Since this class will incorporate class discussions and working sometimes in pairs or groups, it is important that I know you will be absent ahead of time so that I can adjust the assignments.

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**Acknowledgments**

I would like to thank Dr. Barbara Johnson for her generosity, and prior iterations of this course, all led by Drs. Barbara Johnson, Sam Rebelsky, Anya Vostinar, and Janet Davis.