

CS 298 — Course Information

Professor: Eric Roberts

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Hours: Tuesdays, 9:30–11:00 A.M.

Course description

CS 298: Seminar on Teaching Introductory Computer Science (EDUC 298)

Faculty, undergraduates, and graduate students interested in teaching discuss topics raised by teaching computer science at the introductory level. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

Terms: Spr | Units: 1 | Grading: Satisfactory/No Credit

Seminar meetings

CS 298 meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 until 5:20 P.M. in 420-050.

Overall goals

CS 298 has been offered when the department needed to focus attention on questions of immediate concern to Stanford's introductory courses. For example, I've taught CS 298 when we have changed programming languages or when we have built new tools and libraries for the introductory courses. It also serves as a research seminar in computer science education.

This quarter, CS 298 has three primary goals:

1. To discuss issues arising from teaching JavaScript as an introductory language.
2. To give students in the Master's program in Computer Science Education the chance to discuss effective pedagogy in computer science.
3. To pass on knowledge of a few tools I have built over the years to produce effective classroom presentations and interactive web content.

To be optimally useful, however, it is important to let the topics in this seminar evolve according to the needs of those who are taking it. The purpose of today's class will therefore be to hear from everyone what topics would be most important.

Requirements

The most important requirement in CS 298 is regular attendance and participation in seminar discussions. In order to receive credit, you may miss at most two seminar meetings. The second requirement is that you complete two assignments that use the tools that I will describe this quarter. It is, however, possible to undertake additional project work associated with the seminar, which will be organized through CS 191, 199, or 399.