

CS130

Introduction to Software Tools

Professor: Chadd Williams

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Office 202 Strain

Office hours:

- M 2-3:30pm
- T 11-noon
- W 2-3:30pm
- or by **appointment**

Course Schedule

- The course schedule I have posted is tentative.
 - Will be kept up to date
- Contains:
 - handouts
 - assignments

Respect!

- Class starts promptly at 4:45pm!
- You: Arrive on time!
- Me: End class on time!

- Turn off your electronic devices!

- Participate! Ask questions!

How to Succeed in CS130

- Don't miss class.
 - Take notes
- Practice!
- Start assignments early
 - they take **longer** than you think
- Do as much on your own as possible.



How to Succeed in CS130

- Read the assignments carefully and follow all directions
- See me **as soon as possible** about any questions!
- Don't forget that you are at a small school!
 - and you are paying for it!

How to send an effective email

To: chadd@pacificu.edu

From: hall4242@pacificu.edu

Subject: CS130: Formulas

Hi Chadd,

I'm working on the volume assignment and I'm not sure how to calculate a cube of a number in Excel. Any hints?

Thanks,

Lesley

Homework!

- Homework assignment #0
- Fill out the survey on the class schedule
- Bring a printed copy **to my office**
- DUE: By Friday 5pm
- Be prepared to discuss your answers!

What is Computer Science?

- Definition?

Why are you here?

- Why do you need this course?
- What do you expect to get out of it?
- What should you get out of it?

Problem Solving

- Definition?
- Steps?
- Examples from classes?

Research Tasks

Understanding the problem

"knowns" vs "unknown"

Formulating your strategy

Adopting the right method

Collect data

Understanding the data

Applying the right tools for the job

Analysis and answers

Conclusions

Presentation

Tools

- Word processor
 - Good
 - Bad
- Spreadsheets
 - Good
 - Bad
- Statistical Package
 - Good
 - Bad

Tools

- Databases
 - Good
 - Bad
- Presentation Package
 - Good
 - Bad

Many tools. What challenges does this bring?

Research methods

- Tools vs Methods
- Types of research projects
 - Descriptive
 - Relational
 - Causal

Components

- Variables
- Time
- Hypothesis

