

CSCI 6999 - Thesis

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 05, CRN 40914,

Credit hours: 6

Instructor

Alina Lazar

Email: alazar@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph. D., Computer Science, Wayne State University, 2002

Instructor Office Location: Meshel Hall, Room 334

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3468

Course Description

6999. Thesis. A student may register for six semester hours in one semester or for three semester hours in each of two semesters. 3-6 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	None		
Optional	Writing for Computer Science	Justin Zobel	ISBN-10 : 1447166388 ISBN-13 : 978-1447166382
Optional	How to Read a Paper	S. Keshav	

Current peer-reviewed papers selected for each student's research topic

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Current thesis materials; key papers	Thesis status review; semester goals and research plan	Semester research plan; research log started
8/31	Key background papers	Research question, contribution, and scope	Refined thesis question and contribution statement
9/7	Keshav + topic-specific literature	Labor Day week - University closed Monday; literature synthesis	Literature matrix / annotated bibliography; meeting rescheduled/asynchronous
9/14	Exemplary methods papers	Methodology and experimental design	Methods plan; datasets/baselines/metrics
9/21	Topic-specific technical documentation	Implementation / research work	Research progress checkpoint
9/28	Reproducibility/resource notes	Experimental workflow and reproducibility	Repository, environment, and experiment documentation
10/5	Relevant evaluation papers	Results review I	Initial results / analysis
10/12	Advisor-selected analysis resources	Statistics, visualization, and interpretation	Figures/tables draft
10/19	Zobel selection; current literature	Thesis structure and writing checkpoint	Background / related work draft
10/26	Exemplary results/discussion sections	Results review II; limitations and threats to validity	Results and discussion draft
11/2	Targeted references as needed	Full manuscript development	Substantial thesis draft
11/9	Advisor feedback	Advisor review and revision; Veterans Day Wednesday	Revised manuscript; meeting may be adjusted around Nov. 11

11/16	Presentation guidance	Presentation / defense preparation	Presentation/defense draft
11/23	No new reading	Thanksgiving week — no classes Nov. 25–27	Asynchronous progress update; no regular meeting Nov. 25-27
11/30	No new reading	Final research review; manuscript polishing	Near-final thesis manuscript; classes resume Nov. 30
12/7	No new reading	Final examination period	Final thesis manuscript, presentation/defense, and final submission materials

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.