

CISC 367 Tools for the Software Life Cycle  
Study Abroad in Geneva, Switzerland  
Summer 2007  
Lori Pollock, Professor, CIS

The honors section CISC 367 Tools for the Software Life Cycle study abroad course will be distinguished from the non-Honors section in the following way:

1. The proposed Honors work related to the content of the regular coursework consists of: (1) an additional assignment to conduct interviews of members of a CERN project group and prepare a poster that accurately represents the project, (2) a reading assignment that consists of a conference research paper on the technical details behind a state-of-the-art software tool, and a group presentation reviewing the paper's contribution to the state-of-the-art to the rest of the class, (3) leadership in preparation for and conducting interviews at the research lab visits, including reading about the research projects online before the visit to prepare a set of technical questions.
2. The proposed Honors work will intellectually challenge, enrich, and enhance the academic experience of the Honors students beyond what would be obtained in the regular course by: (1) challenging the students to learn how to analytically read a technical research paper in computer science, with a focus on understanding and appreciating the contribution of the researchers beyond the state-of-the-art and the limitations of their contribution, (2) challenging the students to learn how to summarize the important points of a research project and present it to a technical audience in a clear, concise manner both in an oral presentation (of the research paper) and in a poster format (in the CERN project), (3) enhance the students' technical communication skills which are so important in any technical career (in all three additional components), (4) challenging the students to learn how to formulate technical questions to experts in the field (in the interview question preparation for research labs).