

**CMPSC311 – F16 Honors Option**  
**Professor Patrick McDaniel (mcdaniel@cse.psu.edu)**

1. *Project Description - An Honors Option should consist of a portion of the course syllabus or a related alternative to it.*

The honors option for CMPSC311 will consist of extended programming assignments that will require substantial independent research. This will include deeper investigation into memory management, algorithm efficiency (asymptotic and profile-driven), and network protocol design and implementation.

2. *Project Rationale*

The additional effort will provide a more professionally oriented view of systems programming, and offer opportunities for substantial innovation both in design and scope of project function.

3. *Supplemental Work - Describe how this honors work will replace or enhance regular course requirements. The character of the work, not the quantity, should be supplemented.*

All honors options will augment existing assignments in non-trivial ways. For example, the granularity of memory management will be made much finer and caching strategies will be more adaptive and complex. These adjustments will make programming and debugging the system substantially more time consuming.

4. *Agreement and Deadlines - An important component of honors work is regular contact between the student and supervising faculty for review and discussion of the project as it develops. Written final projects should have a first draft deadline to permit revisions incorporating instructor suggestions. Describe the agreement reached and appropriate deadlines for meeting this requirement.*

All assignments, deadlines, and rules will be in line with the current assignment schedule. Honors projects will be graded as other projects, with the addition of honors extensions being graded as well. Any question or discussions surrounding the honors option will be performed during normal office hours or by appointment.