

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
CPSC 483: COMPUTER SYSTEM DESIGN**

**ENTRANCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

This questionnaire is being distributed to help us learn more about your interests, academic strengths and experiences. The information you provide will assist us in assigning you to the appropriate project.

**QUESTION 1**

The last page of this handout lists a number of Computer Engineering/Science specialties. Please select the top three areas that best describe your INTERESTS.

- My first choice is \_\_\_\_\_
- My second choice is \_\_\_\_\_
- My third choice is \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION 2**

List the top three courses that you have enjoyed the most during your undergraduate studies.

- The best course was \_\_\_\_\_
- The second course was \_\_\_\_\_
- The third course was \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION 3**

Please specify the semester and year in which you took CPSC 462.

**QUESTION 4**

Describe your STRENGTHS. For example, would you describe yourself as a software person, a hardware person, or both? Are you better at creating, analyzing or implementing solutions? Are you a bottom-up or a top-down person?

**QUESTION 5**

Describe any hands-on SKILLS (e.g., programming languages, software packages, design tools) that would make you attractive to a potential employer.

**QUESTION 6**

Describe any EXPERIENCES (e.g., internships, co-ops, undergraduate research, and general employment) that may complement your academic credentials.

**QUESTION 7**

Describe any additional QUALIFICATIONS or CONSTRAINTS that you think should be considered when assigning you to a particular project. Do you have any additional background outside of the Computer Engineering curriculum?

**QUESTION 8**

Please review the list of projects available this semester and rank the four projects that would be of most interest to you. In choosing a project, take into consideration both your interests and your background. NOTE: We will do our best to meet your preferences, but some students may not get their first (or even second or third...) choice since we also need to balance the teams.

- My first choice is \_\_\_\_\_
- My second choice is \_\_\_\_\_
- My third choice is \_\_\_\_\_
- My fourth choice is \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION 9**

One of the members of each team will act as the leader. In addition to performing technical tasks, the leader has additional responsibilities, which include scheduling team building activities, facilitating discussions and brainstorming sessions, helping resolve conflicts, monitoring progress (both individual and group), milestones, and ensuring equal distribution of workload across team members. Would you like to be considered for a leadership role in your team? If so, why? If not, why not?

**QUESTION 10**

You'll be probing the job market pretty soon, if you have not started already. For this reason, your first assignment in this class will be to prepare a RESUME and hand it to us within the next two days. Your goal is to prepare a strong and impressive resume to convince us (think of us as the prospective employer) that you should be assigned to one of your preferred projects.

## Areas of Interest

<b>TH</b>	Theory, parallel algorithms, algorithms, combinatorics, optimization, cryptography, theoretical computer science
<b>Chi+</b>	Human computer interaction, multimedia, cognitive modeling, hyper/multi media/text, digital libraries
<b>CSys</b>	Computer systems, computer architecture, resilient CSys, fault tolerance, VLSI
<b>NetDis</b>	Networks, communications, distributed systems/computing, computer communication, distributed/concurrent systems, telecommunications, high speed network, scalable infrastructure, security, cryptography
<b>W/I</b>	Web, Internet, XML, HTML, e-commerce
<b>RT</b>	Real-time systems, embedded computers/systems
<b>OS</b>	Operating systems, remote computing, cooperating processes
<b>SW</b>	Software engineering, software, distributed agents, intelligent agents, object oriented model design, formal methods, software metrics
<b>CmpILang</b>	Compilers (often parallel), language design
<b>DB</b>	Database, distributed DB, DB management systems, OODB, information systems
<b>IS/R</b>	Information storage and retrieval, data mining
<b>AI/ap</b>	Artificial intelligence, neural nets, fuzzy logic, machine learning, intelligent agents, virtual reality, data mining
<b>CSE</b>	Computational science/engineering, computational mathematics, numerical analysis/computing, scientific computing, simulation, high performance computing
<b>Gr/Viz</b>	Computer vision, image processing, imaging, graphics
<b>Rob</b>	Manufacturing automation, robotics, industrial automation, sensors
<b>Other</b>	Any other specialties not included in this list (please specify)