CS 9 **Introduction to Computer Science Research**	**Fall 2014**
Course Summary and Syllabus	
	Date: October 8

This course will introduce the research areas of the computer science faculty, through weekly overview talks by the faculty aimed at first-year undergraduates. Others may wish to take the course to gain an understanding of the scope of the field.

Course Information:

- Organizer: Chris Umans (`umans@cs.caltech.edu`)

- Meetings: Wednesdays 7:30pm – 8:30pm in Annenberg 105

- Webpage: `http://www.cs.caltech.edu/~umans/cs9/`

Requirement for credit: This is a one unit course offered pass/fail. To pass the course, you should attend at least **6 out of the 8** scheduled talks. There will be a sign-in sheet for each meeting.

Tentative schedule:

October 8	Adam Wierman
October 15	Katrina Kigett
October 22	Mathieu Desbrun
October 29	Pietro Perona
November 5	Yisong Yue
November 12	Thomas Vidick
November 19	Erik Winfree
November 26	**No Talk (day before Thanksgiving)**
December 3	Chris Umans

Questions to keep in mind as each area of CS research is introduced:

- What do people actually *do* in this area?

- What are some of the big achievements in this area?

- What are some of the big challenges that make this an exciting area? Where will it be in 10 years? 50 years?

- What comprises "research" in this area; for example, what does a typical research paper report?

- What skills are helpful (and what courses should you consider) if you want to work in this area?