

write a three- to five-page paper regarding your findings from the interview, insights from the mentoring relationship, and key takeaways from the class discussions.

Final Paper

Each student in the course must submit a final paper due by 9:00 pm on Monday, March 16. The purpose of the paper is to reflect on your findings from the interview with your mentor and any insights you gained from the mentoring relationship. You should also incorporate key lessons you learned from the class presentations. Papers may examine one or two topics deeply, or examine more topics in less detail. The paper should be three to five pages (Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced). Quality over quantity is more important. We expect your write-up to follow the style of a high-quality and thoughtful paper, including proper use of citations. Your final paper will account for 50% of your grade in the course.

Weekly Schedule

Friday, January 24: Why diversity matters in the world of technology & innovation

Readings: Chapter 1 in *Geek Girl Rising*; McKinsey report, "Why Diversity Matters"

Speakers:

- Bari Williams: VP of Legal & Policy Affairs at All Turtles; Former Senior Counsel, Facebook
- Jossie Haines: Platform Engineering Director, Tile; Diversity advocate

Friday, January 31: Success strategies of female founders

Reading: Chapter 2 in *Geek Girl Rising*

Speakers:

- Ari Horie: Founder and CEO, Women's Startup Lab
- Maci Peterson: Founder and CEO, On Second Thought

Friday, February 7: Funding female and diverse founders

Reading: Chapter 3 in *Geek Girl Rising*

Speakers:

- Shelly Kapoor Collins: Founding partner, The Shatter Fund
- Lisa Jones: Angel investor, Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund
- Susannah Shipton: Venture capitalist, AlleyCorp

Friday, February 14: The path to leadership

Reading: Chapter 4 in *Geek Girl Rising*; [McKinsey report, Women in the Workplace 2018](#); [Lean In: The "Broken Rung"](#)

Speakers:

- Kathleen Egan: COO ecomedes; Lehigh engineering, Harvard MBA
- Aparna Pujar: CEO and founder, Zemplee
- Mercedes Broening: VP of product and technology strategy at First Republic Bank

Friday, February 21: Young alumni in tech panel

Reading: Chapter 6 in *Geek Girl Rising*

Speakers:

- Christine Quan: Data scientist & engineer, Sisense (BS, MS Stanford 2014)
- Emma Catlin: Software engineer, Pinterest (Brown 2018)
- Kati Pease: Deployment strategist, Stripe (Lehigh 2009)

Friday, February 28: Inspiring the next generation

Reading: Chapter 7 in *Geek Girl Rising*

Speakers:

- Sona Dolasia: Founder, Reaching Out With Robotics
- Allie Diracles: Founder and CEO, VidCode
- Dhana Pawar: General Manager, VeraTempo; Managing Director, Girls in Tech

Friday, March 6: The next “big thing”: future trends in tech

Reading: Chapter 5 in *Geek Girl Rising*; Forbes article, [“2019 Tech Forecast: 11 Experts Predict The Next Wave Of Breakout Technologies”](#)

Speakers:

- Cack Wilhelm: Venture capitalist, IVP (Institutional Venture Partners)
- Kathleen Cavanagh: Software Developer, Symbio Robotics
- Fiona McEvoy: Technology Ethics Researcher, Founder of YouTheData.com

Collaboration

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, all of your work in this course is to be an individual effort. You are encouraged to discuss assignments with one another, your friends, and with the instructors. Indeed, this may be the most effective method of learning. However, all work submitted in your name must be your own. You may not copy in whole or in part from another student or from a website. Violations will be considered as cases of academic dishonesty and referred to the University Committee on Discipline. If you are found guilty, you may be given the failing grade WF in the course. If any aspect of this policy is not clear to you, do not make assumptions; consult with the instructors.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting accommodations, please contact both your instructors and the Office of Academic Support Services, Williams Hall, Suite 301 (610-758-4152) as early as possible in the semester. You must have documentation from the Academic Support Services office before accommodations can be granted.

Principles of Our Equitable Community

Lehigh University endorses The Principles of Our Equitable Community. We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.