The Sky is Falling!

Abstract: Last fall the University of Calgary offered a course on computer viruses and malicious software, the first of its kind in Canada and one of only a handful that have ever been offered worldwide. The course generated a global stream of controversy and media attention, in part because students were taught how to write viruses as well as defend against them. I will talk about the rationale behind the course, what I taught the students, how we put together a secure laboratory for coursework, and the experience we gained.