

Welcome to CSCA20H: Computer Science for the Sciences – Course Information

This course is being co-ordinated with the St. George campus. As such, there will be some common aspects such as assignments, textbook and course webpage.

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Web Site: <https://www.cdf.utoronto.ca/~csc120h/winter>

Discussion Board: On the *Intranet website*. Please use it to your advantage to get help when you have questions, especially questions that you think other students may also have.

Required Courseware:

1. *CSCA08/A20 Practical Programming* textbook: to be available soon. First two chapters are posted in the Intranet website until the text has been printed.
2. *CodeLab* A registration key from <http://www.turingscraft.com>. You will need this Section Access Code: TORONT-XXXX-XXXX. See the course website for more details.

Evaluation:

Work	Weight	Comment
CodeLab (11)	5%	0.5% each; best 10 of 11
Labs (6)	6%	1% each
Assignments (3)	24%	8% each
Project	10%	An end-of-term project.
Midterm	15%	A 50-minute test during week 7 Thursday lecture.
Final exam	40%	You must get 40% or above on the exam to pass the course.

Labs: There are 12 weekly labs. These are the “tutorials” that you signed up for on ROSI. The labs will be held in BV471 To earn the 0.5% for a lab, you must arrive on time, work hard, and pay attention for the two hours of the lab.

CodeLab: There are 11 sets of CodeLab exercises. These are due on Tuesday by 10am. To earn the 0.5% for a set of CodeLab exercises, you must attempt *all* exercises and get at least 75% of them correct. For example, if there are 10 exercises, then you must attempt all 10 exercises and get at least 8/10 correct, and if there are 3 exercises, then you must attempt all 3 exercises and get 3/3 correct.

Assignments: Assignment handouts will be available on the course web site. All assignments are due on a Tuesday by 10am (sharp). You are given 1 grace day to use during the term: once, and only once, you may submit an assignment up to 24 hours late with no penalty. The grace day will be applied to the first late assignment; no other late work will be accepted.

Project: The project will involve designing and implementing a Python application that has a database and a graphical user interface (GUI).

Midterm: The midterm will take place during Week 7 and will cover material from lectures, labs, CodeLab, and assignments. It will be written on paper without the aid of a computer.

Term schedule:

Week	Dates	Reminders	Due Dates
1	7-12 Jan	7 Jan: First day of classes	Lab 1
2	14-18 Jan	20 Jan: Last day to add courses	Lab 2
3	21-25 Jan		Lab 3
4	28 Jan - 1 Feb		Assignment 1, Lab 4
5	4-7 Feb		Lab 5
6	11-15 Feb		Assignment 2, Lab 6
Reading Week	18-22 Feb		
7	25 Feb - 29 Mar		Midterm & Lab 7
8	3 - 7 Mar		Lab 8
9	10 - 14 Mar		Assignment 3 & Lab 9
10	17 - 21 Mar	23 Mar: Last day to drop courses	Lab 10
11	24 - 28 Mar		Lab 11
12	31 Mar - 4 Apr		Lab 12
13	7 - 11 Apr	7 Apr: Last day of classes	Project

Academic Offenses: All of the work you submit must be your own and your work must not be submitted by someone else. Plagiarism is academic fraud and is taken seriously. The department uses software that compares Python programs for evidence of similar code. Please read the Rules and Regulations from the U of T Calendar (especially the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters).

Please don't cheat. It is unpleasant for everyone involved, including us. Here are a couple of general guidelines to help you avoid plagiarism:

- Never look at another student's assignment solution, whether it is on paper or on the computer screen. Never show another student your assignment solution. This applies to all drafts of a solution and to incomplete solutions.
- The easiest way to avoid plagiarism is to only discuss the assignment with the CSCA20H TAs and your instructor.

Getting Help: Besides attending lectures, there are several ways to get help in CSCA20H:

- **Closed Labs:** Labs are a great way for you to get some hands-on practice at programming. Your TA will be a lecturer in computer science and you should feel free to ask him questions during the lab – he is an expert! You will not only get practice by doing the labs, but you will also get marked on them.
- **Office Hours:** Each week your instructor will make herself available to you for extra help. Stop by office hours to ask questions or to hear questions asked by other students. This is a great way to learn.
- **Discussion Board:** This is a resource where students can post questions and answers. There are some rules about using the discussion board, the most important of which is:

1. Do not give specific information about your assignment solutions in your postings. Students are encouraged to both ask and answer questions.
- **Email:** If you are having trouble with the course material or if you need extra help, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will answer as soon as possible. Keep in mind that the closer to an assignment due date that you send an email, the longer your wait for a reply is likely to be, due to the large quantity of messages that I receive. Also, please follow these guidelines for email correspondence:
 1. Please read the announcements on the course website and the bulletin board to see if your question has already been answered before sending me email.
 2. Include a good subject. At the very least, include the course number in the subject of the email, and use a good topic (for example, "CSC120: A1 question about variables").
 3. Sign your full name to the email.