Administrative Information

csc343, Introduction to Databases
Bogdan Simion
Fall 2015
Admin Stuff

Important: Read the course syllabus

- **Contact:**
  - **Email:** bogdan@cs.toronto.edu
  - **Office:** BA 4268
  - **Office Hours:** Thursday 2-4 (not AM!)

- **Webpage:** must read and check periodically
  - [http://www.cdf.toronto.edu/~csc343h/fall](http://www.cdf.toronto.edu/~csc343h/fall)

- **Piazza:** required reading
  - your questions: to Piazza please
  - personal matters: email or visit me

- **Course syllabus** – due dates, policies, etc.
Prerequisites

- For **A&S** students, the prerequisites are:
  1. CSC165/240 or MAT137/157 and
  2. CSC207.

- Email me immediately if you don’t have the
  prerequisites. Include your unofficial ROSI transcript.

- **Engineering** students, contact me if you need any
  permission.
Active lectures

▪ Goal: get your gears turning in class.

▪ Activities like:
  – team problem solving, reviewing other students’ solutions, and short quizzes.

▪ Weekly “lecture prep activities” will get you ready.
  – exercises, reading, (possibly) watching videos

▪ All three hours will be here, with me.

▪ We probably won’t use the “tutorial time” slot until next week.
Benefits of active learning

- Exercise your knowledge and skills in class, with support.
- Strong evidence that people learn better or faster by doing rather than passively listening
- We’ll know where the difficulties are.
- Get more from when I’m lecturing.

What it requires

- Doing the lecture prep.
- Being active in class, including working with others and looking at each other’s solutions to problems.
- A positive, encouraging environment.
Course Marking Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>10% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weekly lecture prep</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>due Sunday nights (except the midterm week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class exercises</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>due in class at the end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>You must get &gt;= 40% to pass the course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommended Resources

- Jennifer Widom’s online mini-courses from Stanford.
Assignment Policies

- You may work with a partner on assignments.
- Can be from any section.
- Can change partners between assignments.
- You may not dissolve a partnership without permission.
- Late policy: 6 grace tokens, each token == 2 hours.
Assignments

- svn (make sure to revise!)
- Start early on the assignments!
- Make sure you can commit in your **svn repository** and commit periodically
- Do not wait until the very last minute to submit your assignment!
- Your code **must run on CDF computers!**
Don’t Panic!

- Help is available in many forms
  - Lectures/tutorials: Ask questions!
  - Office hours: My time dedicated specifically to helping you
  - TA lab/office hours – get help with your code
  - Piazza: Faster response!
  - Email: Longer turnaround time
  - Anonymous email: for feedback
- Undergraduate TA Help Center:
  [http://web.cs.toronto.edu/program/ugrad/ug_helpcentre.htm](http://web.cs.toronto.edu/program/ugrad/ug_helpcentre.htm)
Don’t Copy!

- **Academic Integrity: Plagiarism and cheating**
  - Very serious academic offences
  - Clear distinction between collaboration and cheating
    - Of course you can help your friend track down a bug
    - It is **never ok to submit work that is not your own!**
    - Ask questions on Piazza, but **don’t add pieces of your solution!**
  - All potential cases will be investigated fully
  - **Don’t post your code in public places (Github, etc.)**
To-do list

- Anyone new to the cdf labs:
  - Find out your account on our cdf machines. See the course website for details.
  - Try logging in.
- Read the course syllabus.
- Bookmark the course website.
- Do the class prep due Sunday night.
Announcement

- Undergraduate Project Showcase on Tuesday, September 22nd, 4-6 pm in the BA Atrium
  uoft.me/UGshowcase2015