

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
School of Computer Science

COMP3203– Principles of Computer Networks
Assignment 2

Instructor: Prof. AbdelRahman Abdou

Winter 2022

The assignment is **worth 3.64%** of the total course grade. It is graded out of 25, so your mark will be scaled accordingly.

You should submit a PDF document with your solutions in the respective assignment dropbox on cuLearn. For example, if you use MS Word, save it as PDF and upload. Name the PDF file as:

“A#_FirstName.LastName_StudentNumber.pdf”

So if John Smith, whose number is 123456789, is uploading the solution for Assignment 3, John should name the file “A3_John_Smith_123456789.pdf”.

Make sure you upload your solution before the deadline, which is at **11:59pm EST on Feb 15th**. As usual, feel free to ask questions on our Brightspace forum.

Distribution of Marks

Question	Points	Score
1	15	
2	10	
Total:	25	

1. Answer the following questions.
 - (a) (4 points) How does SMTP mark the end of a message body?
 - (b) (4 points) How about HTTP?
 - (c) (7 points) Can HTTP use the same method as SMTP to mark the end of a message body? Explain.
2. In this problem, we use the useful `dig` tool available on UNIX and Linux hosts to explore the hierarchy of DNS servers. If you are using Windows, you must install `dig`.¹ In Fig.2.19 of the textbook, a DNS server in the DNS hierarchy delegates a DNS query to a DNS server lower in the hierarchy, by sending back to the DNS client the name of that lower-level DNS server. First, read the `man` page for `dig`, and then answer the following questions.
 - (a) (5 points) Starting with a root DNS server (from one of the root servers *[a-m].root-servers.net*), initiate a sequence of queries (one for each DNS server in the hierarchy) for the IP address for `cisl.carleton.ca` by using `dig`. Write down the `dig` command you ran for each query, and the `AUTHORITY SECTION` in the response to each query.
 - (b) (5 points) Repeat part (a) for `stem.open.ac.uk`

¹Search online on how to install `dig` for Windows. You can start here: <https://help.dyn.com/how-to-use-binds-dig-tool/>.