CSE 355: Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science

Time and Place: TTh 3–4:15 p.m., BYAC 150

Instructor: Joohyung Lee (joolee@asu.edu)

Instructor's Office Hours: W 5-6 p.m., F 1-2 p.m. and by appointment (preferably made at least one day ahead), BY 574

TA: Yunsong Meng (Yunsong.Meng@asu.edu)

TA's Office Hours: TTh 1:30–3:00 p.m., BY 513BA

Prerequisites: CSE 310

Textbook: Introduction to the Theory of Computation (2nd ed.), Michael Sipser, Published by Course Technology

Course webpage:

http://peace.eas.asu.edu/joolee/teaching/lp-f08 .

Description: This course is an introduction to several important topics in theoretical computer science: regular languages, finite automata, context-free languages, pushdown automata, Turing machines, Church-Turing Thesis, Decidability, Reducibility.

You will learn the subjects mainly by doing homework problems, and by studying and discussing the solutions presented in class.

Homework: On Thursdays, homework will be announced at class webpage. Homework should be turned in by the start of the next class on Tuesdays. You are NOT allowed to discuss homework problems with others before the submission. In contrast, you are welcome to (or encouraged to) discuss homework problems with others after they were discussed in class.

Tests: There will be several quizzes. Some of them may be unannounced. The first midterm will be given during the regular class hour on Tuesday, September 16, and the second on October 21. **There will be no make up tests.**

Grading: Your grade will be determined by class participation, quizzes, one midterm and one final. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. If you believe that there is a mistake in grading, you have a week from the time it was returned to report this.

Homework	25%
Quizzes	15%
Two midterms	15% each
Final	30%

The syllabus is subject to change if necessary.