
EECS 16A Designing Information Devices and Systems I

Spring 2023 Homework 0

This homework is due **Friday, January 20, 2023 at 23:59**.
Self-grades are due **Friday, January 27, 2023 at 23:59**.

This homework is simply so you can learn how to submit homework assignments and self-grades and so we can get to know you. However, it is still graded. Make sure you are comfortable with submitting homework assignments and self-grades. Actual homework assignments will start next week.

Submission Format

Your homework submission should consist of **one** file.

hw0.pdf: A single PDF file that contains all of your answers (any handwritten answers should be scanned). Submit the file to the appropriate assignment on Gradescope.

1. **(OPTIONAL) Study Groups** Please fill out this group formation survey if you are interested in getting matched up in a study group for 16A. We highly recommend joining a study group in order to foster a sense of community in the course and learn from others. Within a few weeks, you should get an email informing you of the group you have been matched with. Please follow up with your group members; completing this survey suggests you are interested in joining a group, after all! Please fill out the survey by this Friday so that we can get you your groups as soon as possible. The late deadline to request a group is the HW0 deadline (with slip days) on Sunday, January 22. Just so you have an answer to put down for this question, write down whether you filled out the survey or not. <https://forms.gle/SeVZfMqUxeJMNwvd6>

2. Syllabus

Read the course syllabus and answer the following questions.

The syllabus can be found here: <https://eecs16a.org/policies.html>.

- (a) What are the (tentative) dates and times for both midterms, and the final exam?

Solution:

Midterm 1 is on Wednesday, March 1st, 2023, from 7pm-9pm.

Midterm 2 is on Monday, April 17th, 2023, from 7pm-9pm.

The final exam is on Monday, May 8th, 2023, from 11:30am-2:30pm.

- (b) If you need exam accommodation, whom do you contact and how?

Solution:

Head GSIs via email at eecs16a@berkeley.edu.

You should contact the head GSI as soon as possible.

- (c) When is homework 1 (not this homework) due? When is homework 1's self-grade due? In general, what day of the week is the homework due and at what time? In general, what day of the week are the self-grades due and at what time? **Solution:**

Homework 1 is due Friday, January 27 at 23:59 Pacific Time. Self-grades for Homework 1 are due

Friday, February 3, at 23:59 Pacific Time.

All homework assignments are due on Friday at 23:59 Pacific Time, and their respective self-grades are due the following Friday at 23:59 Pacific Time.

- (d) When are homework parties? In what room are they normally held? Homework parties are where groups of students can get together to work on the homework together.

Solution:

Homework parties are on Fridays from 9am - 11am, and are generally held in Wozniak Lounge (430-438 Soda Hall).

- (e) How many homework drops do you get? (Reminder: the homework drop is for extenuating circumstance such as getting sick, family emergencies etc. You should plan on completing and submitting all homework assignments and self-grades.) How do you use this drop?

Solution:

You get two homework drops.

Please reserve this for emergencies. Your lowest scores are automatically dropped (you do not need to contact us).

- (f) How many slip days do you receive throughout the semester? Which assignments can you use slip days on? What is the maximum number of slip days you can use on any one assignment? **Solution:** You receive 6 days throughout the semester. They can only be used on Homeworks, and you can only use 2 slip days max per homework.

- (g) What is the penalty if you turn in your self-grades up to one week late?

Solution:

You only receive 75% credit on that homework.

- (h) What score will you get on a homework if you do not submit your self-grades?

Solution:

You will receive a 0% on that homework.

- (i) Fill in the blank: You should attend one discussion section on _____ and one discussion section on _____ each week.

Solution:

You should attend one discussion section on Monday and one discussion section on Wednesday each week.

- (j) Provide a complete list of everything you must do in order to receive credit for your homework assignments. Note that we're just looking for a high-level overview (think bulleted list).

Solution:

To receive full credit you must submit a scan of your work, including any necessary printouts and/or screenshots of your Python code (all compiled into a single pdf document) to Gradescope before the Friday submission deadline, and make sure to tag your pages to the appropriate questions. Further, once solutions are released, you must self-grade your homework using the form on the course website, and submit your self-grades to Gradescope by the Monday deadline.

- (k) Read the following guide:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bTyQE6-MhExK5ZXP9nW4Zyjo1MHSzZNR-MNq7ExztoY/edit?usp=sharing>.

What are the five steps in the submission process for a PDF on Gradescope? Please note that if you do not select pages for each question/subquestion we cannot grade your homework and we will be forced to give you a 0.

Solution:

- i. Find the appropriate assignment in the Gradescope portal.

- ii. Select “Submit PDF”.
 - iii. Upload your single PDF, containing both your (scanned) handwritten answers and a “printout” of your iPython code (can be concatenated with www.pdfmerge.com).
 - iv. Assign questions to pages of your submission. All of your work (including iPython pages) must be assigned to the corresponding subproblem before you click “Submit”, or you will not receive credit for that work.
 - v. Click “Submit” in the lower right-hand corner. If you have selected pages correctly, you will not have to click through a warning message.
- (l) What percentage do you need to get on a homework assignment for you to get full credit for the assignment?
- Solution:**
80%. (If you get $x\%$ of the homework correct, where $x < 80$, you will get $(x/80) * 100$ points on that assignment.)
- (m) Are you allowed to use your own notes during exams?
- Solution:**
Yes, all exams are open-note, but **not** open-internet. They are in-person.
- (n) Fill in the blank:
If you miss ____ or more labs you will fail the class.
- Solution:**
If you miss 4 or more labs you will fail the class.
- (o) Fill in the blank:
During buffer lab periods, you may get checked off for at most _____ missed lab that occurred during that lab module by attending a buffer section.
- Solution:**
During buffer lab periods, you may get checked off at most **one** missed lab that occurred during that lab module by attending a buffer section.
- (p) As a student in this course, what online forum should you check regularly?
- Solution:**
Ed.

3. Academic Honesty

For each scenario described below, indicate whether or not it constitutes academic dishonesty according to course policies. Provide a brief justification for your answer.

Course policies on collaboration can be found here: <https://eecs16a.org/policies.html#collaboration>.

- (a) John downloaded homework solutions off of the Spring 2021 website before they were taken down. When he gets really stuck and can't figure out the next step of a problem, he checks these solutions for a hint.
- Solution:**
This is against course policy, as it gives students who got ahold of the solutions an unfair advantage. From the syllabus, "Using previous EECS 16A homework, exam, and lab solutions is strictly prohibited, and will be considered academic dishonesty."

- (b) Esmeralda and Joseph are working on the homework together with their study group. When Joseph gets stuck on a problem, he explains his logic to Esmeralda and she asks questions to help him figure out where he went wrong. Once they agree on the approach, they both write up their solutions independently.

Solution:

This type of collaboration is allowed, and encouraged, per course policy: both students learn from the interaction, but nobody is unfairly advantaged.

- (c) Lily has all of her homework finished except for one block of iPython code. At 11:55pm on Friday, she can't get rid of a pesky syntax error, so she has her roommate Michelle send her working code. She pastes this code into her iPython notebook and submits it, citing Michelle as a collaborator.

Solution:

This is against course policy, as Michelle shares her exact solution with Lily.

4. Homework resources

If you need help on a homework problem or have a question about the material, what are some of the resources you might be able to use?

- (i) Homework party
- (ii) TA office hours
- (iii) Professor office hours
- (iv) Asking a friend taking 16A
- (v) Posting on Ed
- (vi) Going to discussion
- (vii) All of the above

Solution:

vii.