**EECS 233: Introduction to Data Structures**

Instructor: Dr. Chris Fietkiewicz

Email: Use TA email address listed on the Blackboard gradecenter

Instructor Office Hours: Immediately after lectures and by appointment

Teaching Assistant Office Hours: See the website

Supplemental Instruction: Brian Clark (see Blackboard page)

**Websites**

Primary website: <http://blackboard.case.edu>

Textbook resources (source code, errors): <http://users.cis.fiu.edu/~weiss/#dsaajava3>

**Getting Help**

*Email:* Use the email address for your TA (see Blackboard gradecenter).

*Office hours:* Supplemental Instruction (SI) sessions will be available on different days throughout the week. Each TA will also hold weekly office hours. See the website for the complete schedule of SI sessions and TA office hours.

*Supplemental Instruction:* An SI, provided through ESS will provide optional review sessions outside of class. See the website for more information.

*Tutoring:* Complimentary tutoring is available through ESS Peer Tutoring services. To sign up, go to the ESS web page, <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/education/>, and click on “TutorTrac”. Tell your tutor to contact Chris if he or she has any questions.

**Textbook**

Book: *Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis in Java* (3rd ed), by Mark Allen Weiss, Addison-Wesley,

ISBN: 0132576279, 2011.

**Labs & Software**

The only requirement is to be able to compile and run Java programs using the standard libraries.

**Attendance**

*Lecture:* Attendance is notrequired for actual lectures (including lectures after a quiz). However, lecture activities will be collected randomly to check attendance which can improve your course grade (see *Borderline Grades* below). Students with valid excuses for missing a lecture can request makeup work in order to obtain attendance credit.

*Respect:* Except for excused absences, it will be assumed that students who are not present during lecture or lab do not need further assistance with the material covered. Please be respectful and use our scheduled time on Tuesdays and Thursdays to seek help. At the end of the semester, grades within 1 point of the next highest letter grade *might* be raised at the instructor’s discretion for students with perfect attendance and perfect assignment completion.

**Grading**

The grade cutoffs are 90-80-70-60 percent for A-B-C-D respectively. The following weights will be applied to the average percentage for each category. Items from different categories may have the same total number of points, but they do not have the same contribution to the final grade. For example, an exam and a quiz may each have a maximum of 100 points, but the contribution of each depends on the number of exams, the number of quizzes, and the weight of each category.  
  
(20%) Homework: May include written and programming assignments.

(20%) Quizzes: Quizzes will occur at the beginning of selected lectures. They will cover material in the homework problems.

(50%) Exams: There are three required exams and an optional final exam. An unexcused absence will result in a zero for that exam. Students will have the option (not required) to take a comprehensive final exam that can replace any previous exam grade that was lower. The average of the exam grades is worth 50% of the final grade.   
  
(10%) Final Project: A software development project is assigned at the end of the semester. Students must choose a particular design within the guidelines provided. Students have the option to work in groups of two or three with additional requirements.

*Late submissions:* Late submissions for lab assignments and final projects will receive a penalty of –0.07 points for each minute past the due date. Exams and quizzes will not be accepted late except for excused absences (see “Absences” below.

*Absences:* Non-emergency absences must be approved in advance, including Case-sponsored trips. Makeup exams will only be provided for excused absences in accordance with university policy. Students with valid excuses for missing a lecture can request makeup work in order to obtain attendance credit. Makeup requests for emergencies must be made within 24 hours of the absence in order to be considered.

*Borderline grades*: At the end of the semester, students who are within 1% of the next highest letter grade may receive the higher letter grade, at the instructor’s discretion, if all of the following conditions are met:

* The student has perfect lecture attendance (based on collected lecture activities).
* The student submitted everything possible, including every homework, quiz, exam (including the final), and final project.
* The student received a score of 80 or higher on the final exam.
* The student has not violated any course policies.

**Academic Integrity**

All assignments submitted should be the student’s own work. This includes the design of programs as well as the actual computer code. A homework problem is the most important opportunity for a student to practice independently prior to a quiz or exam. Therefore, students are encouraged to complete all homework problems independently. Asking for help from your peers is fine, but your results will be superior if all work is your own. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the teaching staff to ensure that assignments are approached properly. Students found in violation of the [university’s academic integrity policy](http://studentaffairs.case.edu/groups/aiboard/policy.html) will be reported to the Dean's office and will receive either a permanent zero on the assignment in question or failure for the course.

**Friendly Advice: The Proactive Student**

The truly successful people in life are the ones who know how to get what they want. They also know they are the only ones responsible for making it happen. Many students come to college thinking they can succeed by simply doing what they are told. It is not uncommon to hear the complaint, "You didn't tell us we had to know *that*!" Success in college, as well as in life, comes from *self*-discovery, which includes discovering things *by* oneself as well as discovering things *about* oneself. One of the instructor's jobs is to show students where to look. It is the students' responsibility to know whether they have found what they needed and to seek out help when they are uncertain. Please be proactive about your education, and do not wait for your instructors to tell you when you don't know something.