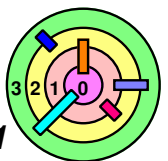


CS402 Exams

Bill Cheng

<http://merlot.usc.edu/cs402-s16>

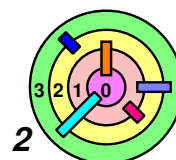


Question Types

➡ **Calculation-type** questions

➡ **Short answers**

- ➡ give the **best answer** for a question
- ➡ if the question says, "In **N** words or less, ...", it's just a hint to tell you approximately how many words we expect
 - you can write more words
 - **exception:** when it's a fill-in-the-blank question (**N** would be small)
 - ◆ then you **must not** use more than **N** words
- ➡ you get credit for including the right answer
- ➡ you get deduction for saying something wrong
- ➡ must **not** answer a **general (high-level)** question by giving an example
- ➡ must **not** answer a **specific** question by giving a general (high-level) answer

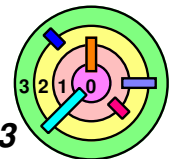


Question Types

➡ **Multiple-choice**

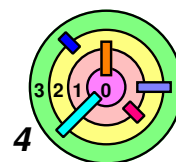
- ➡ unless **explicitly** stated, every multiple-choice question has **one or more** correct answers
 - if the question asks, "which **statements** are correct", it can have one or more correct answers
 - if you select all the correct choices, you get 2 points
 - ◆ if only one correct answer, it's worth 2 points
 - ◆ if two correct answers, each is worth 1 point
 - ◆ if three correct answers, first one is worth 1 point, the rest worth 0.5 point each
 - ◆ if four correct answers, each is worth 0.5 point
 - for every **wrong** answer you have selected, you **lose 1 point**
 - ◆ best not to guess!
 - please note that if a statement is **inconsistent** or **incorrect**, it should be considered to be a "**false**" statement

➡ Total points for a problem cannot go negative



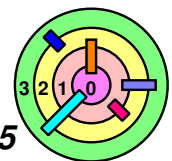
Question Types

- ➡ ***Correct/best answers*** to most questions in the exam are the ones ***on lecture slides***
- if you disagree with what's on a lecture slide, you need to complain to me ***now*** to set things straight
 - once the exam starts, it's too late to say that you don't like the answers on the lecture slides
 - I reserve the right to ask about things that I think you should know and ***not*** on lecture slides
- ➡ Therefore, you should focus on studying lecture slides
- although it should be clear that for multiple-choice questions, the "wrong answers" are not on lecture slides
 - so you need to figure out why some answers are wrong
 - you need to understand lecture slides



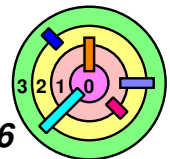
General Rules

- ➡ Read problem descriptions very carefully
 - you may *not* receive *any credit* if you *answer the wrong question*
 - if a question has multiple parts, make sure you answer every part and clearly label which answer is for which part
- ➡ We will give partial credit if applicable
 - no guarantee that you will get partial credit
- ➡ Do not just draw pictures to answer questions (unless the question asked you to draw pictures)
 - pictures will not be considered for grading unless they are clearly explained with words
- ➡ Weenix questions
 - if a question does *not* mention weenix *explicitly*, you must *not* give a weenix-specific answer



General Rules

- ➡ During the exam, please only ask questions to *clarify* problems
- please do not ask for hints or ask if "it's okay to answer this way"
 - if you ask a *non-clarification* type question, we are *not responsible* for the answer that you think we gave
 - during regrade, you cannot say, "But the TA told me that it's okay to answer it this way"



Rules About Regrades

- ➡ In order to be fair to all, we must stick to the 15-minute timeslot
 - if you have been assigned a timeslot from X to Y, your appointment must be done at Y
 - be on time and spend your time wisely
- ➡ We can only grade based on what you *wrote*
 - it *cannot* be based on "*what you meant*"
 - please do not argue about what you meant and focus on "what you wrote"
- ➡ Please keep the following in mind regarding regrades:
 - regrades is about whether the TA has made a mistake or not
 - it's *not* about *arguing for points*
 - there is no point arguing, because:
 - everyone who answered the same way got the same number of points
 - you cannot argue about anything that's not written on your exam paper

