



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

CS402 Exams

Bill Cheng



- **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



- 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"

General Rules



- **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

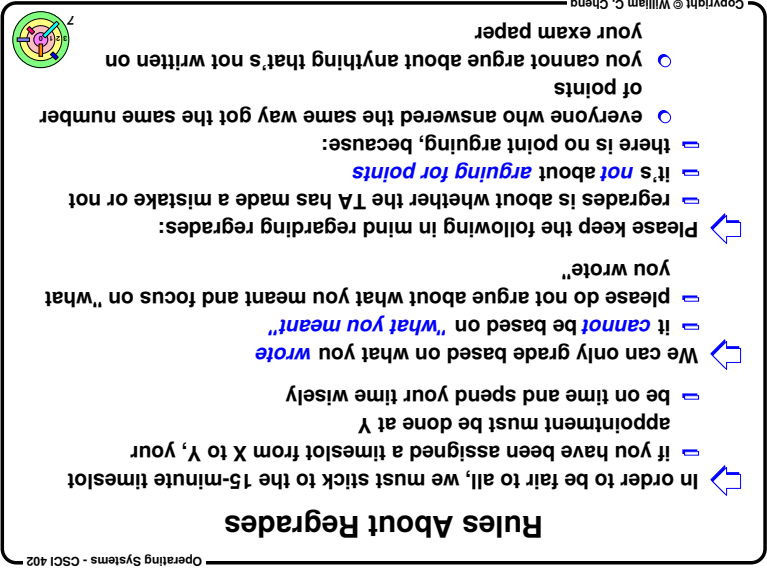
Question Types

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

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