

CSC 505 Syllabus Highlights

Spring 2018

Prerequisites

- Absolutely necessary, especially math
- CSC 505 is not recommended for first-semester students
 - “success” rate is not good
 - instructor/advisor will say “I told you so”;
I play both roles

Grading

- 5% attendance/quizzes; TopHat allows regular monitoring
- 20% homework (five at 4% each)
 - in depth understanding of material
- 10% programming assignments (two at 5% each)
- 40% for midterm exams (two at 20% each)
 - check schedule; ***absence excused only under university policy***
 - no makeups; will use final exam to substitute ***if excused***
- 25% final exam
- ***Note:***
 - ***65% of grade is exams***
 - ***programming assignments due five days before each exam***

Homework

- Work on it ***early and often*** rather than all at once close to the deadline
- Submit to GradeScope (more information later)
- Electronically generated files only (LaTeX or Word)
- May work with a partner
 - register by submitting to a special GradeScope assignment at least one week before due date
 - details later

Programs

- Ground rules are the same as with homework, i.e., may work with partner, etc.
- May use any programming language (within reason – check with me first) as long as
 - your program will run on a realm Linux machine
 - you provide shell scripts for compilation and execution
 - you follow directions precisely
 - input and output format
 - exact names of files for the scripts
 - you document your programs so that the algorithms are clear; use variable and method/function names that are appropriate
- You will submit a report detailing your methods and results of experiments

Academic Integrity

- All incidents reported to Office of Student Conduct – ***no exceptions***
 - instructor/TA's are not police or judge, we merely report to the authorities
 - important to ensure no multiple occurrences
 - need to be fair to everyone
- Examples of violations
 - copying a solution of someone who is not your partner
 - sharing a solution with someone who is not your partner
 - copying a solution from a web site, ***even if you change the wording***
 - using ideas from a solution found on a web site without attribution (plagiarism)
 - *copying* includes paraphrases (e.g., changes in sentence structure)
- ***most violations occur shortly before submission deadline***
 - work early and often on homework and programs
 - do not panic; leads to poor judgement
 - do not help a friend or get help from a friend in the last minute
 - unless it's your partner

Cheating is ***not worth it***

- don't know how to solve an 8 point problem on a 32 point homework assignment
 - make a valiant effort
 - wrong answer, but some good ideas
 - lose maybe 4 points or 1/8 of homework score
 - **lose at most ½ point on final average!**
 - no submission => lose at most 1 point on final avg.
 - copy solution from web site and modify
 - no credit on homework => ***lose 4 points on final avg.***
 - could be worse, might lose a full letter grade
 - on **Academic Integrity Probation**
 - another offense means ***automatic suspension***
 - ***means end of your stay here if international student***

Technologies

- Moodle: course content (syllabus, notes, homework)
 - wolfware.ncsu.edu
- Piazza: message board
 - piazza.com/class/ij1vhgd6eah1bc
 - all communication related to content
- GradeScope (submission, feedback, regrades of homework, programs, and exams)
 - detailed instructions will be given later
 - very important to follow instructions
 - exam papers are scanned and uploaded to GradeScope
 - write legibly using dark ink or dark pencil
 - do not bend paper (pages will be held together with removable clip)
 - write on one side only
- TopHat
 - attendance and quizzes
 - consult support site for instructions