COMP1021 Fall 2022
Midterm Exam Details

Practice Exam and Midterm Exam

- Be ready **at least 20 minutes** before the exam

Practice exam on **Saturday 15 Oct 2022**

- **1:40pm - 2:00pm**   Make sure you are ready
- **2:00pm - 2:15pm**   Practice exam

Midterm exam on **Saturday 22 Oct 2022**

- **1:40pm - 2:00pm** Make sure you are ready
- **2:00pm - 3:05pm** Midterm exam

Practice Exam Timing

- **Saturday 15 Oct 2022**
  - **1:40pm - 1:54pm** Make sure you are ready
  - *1:53pm Start our special program, enter details if asked*
  - *1:55pm Show your face to camera for >= 5s*
  - *1:57pm Slowly move your camera to show your nearby area for >= 10s*
  - *1:58pm Password for practice exam announced*
  - **2:00pm - 2:15pm** Practice exam
  - *2:17pm Stop our special program; delete it*

  - You don't need to do these if you are in one of our quiet rooms

  - The practice exam is not worth anything, but it is extremely useful practice for the midterm exam, and probably for the final exam also

Midterm Exam Timing

- **Saturday 22 Oct 2022**
  - **1:40pm - 1:54pm** Make sure you are ready
  - *1:53pm Start our special program, enter details if asked*
  - *1:55pm Show your face to camera for >= 5s*
  - *1:57pm Slowly move your camera to show your nearby area for >= 10s*

  - You don't need to do these if you are in one of our quiet rooms

  - *1:58pm Password for first part announced*
  - **2:00pm - 2:25pm Midterm exam - first part**
                    (25 minutes long)
  - *2:25pm - 2:38pm Toilet break – stay logged in to Zoom!*
  - *2:38pm Password for second part announced*
  - **2:40pm - 3:05pm Midterm exam - second part**
                    (25 minutes long)
  - *3:07pm Stop our special program; delete it*

What Can You Do On Your Computer?

- You can only use these during the practice/midterm:

- IDLE Python version 3.10.4
  - You can do whatever you like with IDLE during the exam
  - Other programming IDEs such as VS are **not allowed**

- A browser such as Chrome
  - You can **only access the two course web sites**:
    https://canvas.ust.hk/courses/45392 and
    https://course.cse.ust.hk/comp1021 and
    any PDF notes you drag into your browser
    - You cannot visit any other web site

- Zoom
  - You must use this if you are not in one of our quiet rooms
  - If you are in one of our quiet rooms, you don't need it

Checking What You Are Doing

- Because there are limited things you are allowed to do on your computer, we need to check you are being good:
  - ***1:53pm*** *Start our special program, enter details if asked . . .*

- The link to the program will be given to you in the email sent to you before the exam

- The program will not change anything on your computer

- When you run the program, you may need to enter some information

Use Your Camera

- Please use your camera to do this:
    - **1:55pm** *Show your face to camera for >= 5s*
    - **1:57pm** *Slowly move your camera to show your nearby area for >= 10s*

- When you show your face:
    - Show your face clearly
    - Don't move around
    - Keep your face still for >= 5s

- You don't need to do this if you are in one of our quiet rooms

- If you are in one of our quiet rooms, put your HKUST and HKID card on your table

- When you show your nearby area:
    - Move your camera so we can see all of your local area
    - Please do >= 5s for the left side, >=5s for the right side

    - You don't need to do this if you are in one of our quiet rooms

Why Two Parts?

- The only reason for dividing the midterm exam into two parts is to give you a break in the middle

Coverage of the Midterm Exam

- **For labs** - all the labs (lab 00 to lab 03)

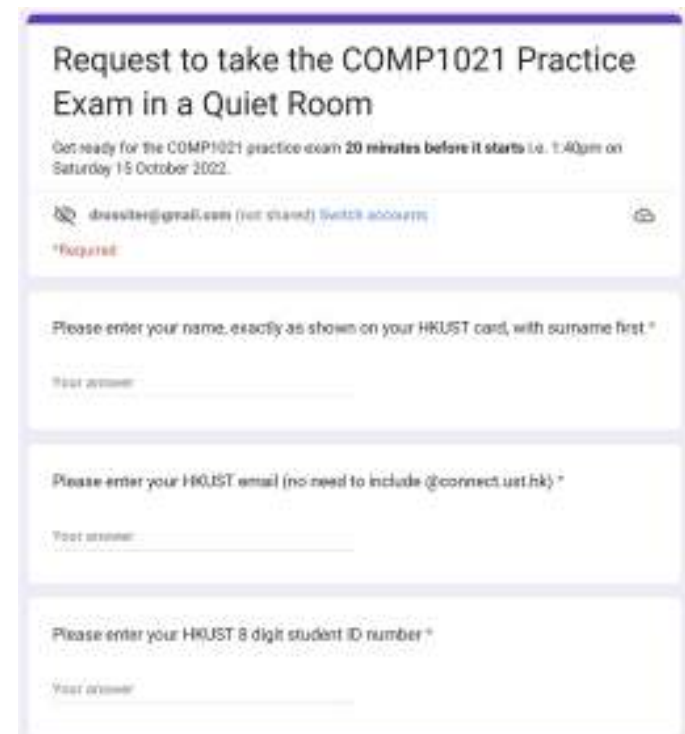- **For lectures** - up to and including the last taught lecture before the midterm

Where Can You Take The Exam?

- You need to find your own place to take the exam

- This will probably be the place where you sleep

- Please take the exam using a PC/Mac and good internet signal, and follow the Zoom video requirements - discussed later

A Quiet Room to Take the Exam

- We have booked some rooms so there is a quiet place for you to take the practice exam/midterm exam

- To get a seat, you must request a place by following the link on the web site and submitting your details

- There is one form to request a quiet place for the practice exam, and another form to request a quiet place for the midterm exam

- The forms will be closed at the end of October 9 or when there are no more seats available, whichever is first

Taking the Exam in one of our Rooms

- These physical rooms will be handled by Dr Alex Lam, lamngok@cse.ust.hk

- You will get an email a few days before the practice/midterm exam if your request is successful

- If you take the exam in a room monitored by us:
  - Bring your HKUST card and Hong Kong ID (HKID) card, put them on your table so they can be checked
  - There will be someone there to supervise
  - We will release a seating plan; sit in the right place
  - Probably, **there are no power sockets** in the room
  - You don't need to turn on or use Zoom
  - You will be able to see/hear the invigilator on the room projector

Extra Guidance

- Prepare backups:
  - It's wise to have a second device
    e.g. a tablet with bluetooth keyboard
  - It's wise to have a second Internet connection
    e.g. use the wi-fi signal/ your phone's internet /
    someone else's phone internet

- Don't use any special language input
  e.g. don't use Chinese/Korean language input
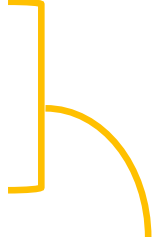
Practice Exam Details

- The exam is an open book, open notes exam

- There will be roughly 6 questions

- Some questions may have more marks than others

- The practice exam questions are generally easier/ smaller than the actual exam questions

Midterm Details

Midterm Exam Details

- The exam is an open book, open notes exam

- There will be roughly 7 questions for the first part/ roughly 6 questions for the second part

- Some questions may have more marks than others

Plug Everything In!

1. Make sure that your **laptop battery is fully charged**, and is **always plugged in**

2. Make sure that **your phone/tablet battery is fully charged**, and is **always plugged in**

3. **You must have the camera turned on, showing the correct things via Zoom** (see later)

   - You don't need to do this if you are in one of our quiet rooms

Types of Question

- The style will be similar to previous midterm exams – several will be released for you to see

- In the exam there may be 'make a program from scratch' kind of questions (but there can't be many because there isn't much time)

- In other words, you may have to make a short program from nothing to work out the answer

- There will be some multiple choice questions
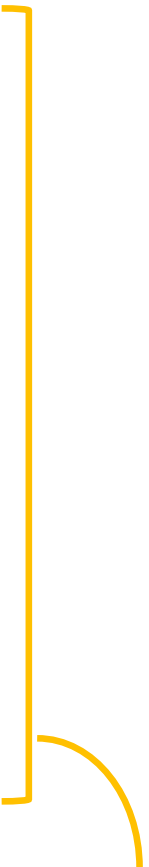
We Will Send You the Exam

- 2-3 hours before the exam we will send the PDF file(s) containing your exam to your ITSC email account
  - The exam will be sent to you from **namkiu@ust.hk**
  - Make sure your email quota is not full!
  - Check all your email folders to find the exam!
- Make sure you use only the exam sent to you
- We will tell you the password just before the exam begins, then you can open the PDF file
- Read the exam questions shown in your PDF file and enter your answers into the **canvas system**
- The exact link will be given to you in the email

During the Exam

- With 1,500+ students taking the exam it is impossible for us to give good answers to any queries during the exam

- Also, you may disturb others if you ask something

- Prepare properly before the exam so that you don't have any issues once the exam begins

- If there is an issue with a question we will handle it after the exam; we will adjust marks if appropriate

- We will even exclude a question, if it is appropriate

Referring to Things on Paper

- You can refer to things written on paper
(such as notes, books)

    - If you are not in one of our quiet rooms, those items must be clearly visible in your Zoom video stream

- You can write things on paper

    - If you are not in one of our quiet rooms, your hands and the paper must be clearly visible in your Zoom video stream

- Just to be clear – you cannot touch
or adjust your camera device
during the exam

    - You don't need to use Zoom if you are in one of our quiet rooms

Copying Code From the Exam

- Sometimes you will be able to copy and paste code from the exam PDF file, sometimes you won't be able to

- However, if you can copy code from a PDF file and paste it **the indentation is removed** – you need to add it back in your IDLE editor so the code works properly

Copying Code From the Exam

- If you are using a Mac:
  - Sometimes you can only copy a few lines (perhaps 10 lines) of code from the PDF file at once
  - If you cannot copy all of the lines of Python code at once then you can simply copy the first few lines, then paste, then copy the next few lines, then paste, and so on

Copying Code From the Exam

- The basic idea:

  1. In the exam PDF file, select the Python code
     - Make sure only the code is included, not other things
     - Make sure all of the code is included, don't miss any of it

  2. Right click > Copy

  3. Go to your IDLE, do File > New File

  4. In the new file window, do Edit > Paste

  5. Fix the indentation at the start of the code (if needed)

  6. Run the program (Run > Run Module) / edit the program, and so on - depending on what the question asks

Getting Things Ready for Zoom

- Use the name shown on your HKUST card

- Do not use the Virtual Background feature

- Turn off your microphone

- Make sure you can hear the chat room sound - the invigilator will say things such as **"the exam has started"**, **"there are** *X* **minutes left"**, and so on

  - You don't need to use Zoom if you are in one of our quiet rooms

Use Zoom Video

- While you take the exam you will be observed via Zoom

- That means you need to use an external device with
a camera, e.g. your mobile phone or a tablet,
to show yourself while you are taking the quiz

- You must remain visible in Zoom during the exam
e.g. you cannot leave

- Don't touch the device you are using for Zoom
e.g. your phone/tablet during the exam

- These videos will be recorded
and checked carefully

- You don't need to use Zoom if
you are in one of our quiet rooms

What Your Camera Must Show

- You don't need to use Zoom if you are in one of our quiet rooms

- Use just one camera in your Zoom room, not two

The camera must show:
- your face (at least partially)
- the screen of the device where you are taking the Canvas quiz
- your hands
- your desk area

You need to install Zoom on the device which you will use to show your Zoom camera image

Another Example

- You don't need to use Zoom if you are in one of our quiet rooms

The camera must show:

- your face (at least partially)
- the screen of the device where you are taking the Canvas quiz
- your hands
- your desk area

You need to install Zoom on the device which you will use to show your Zoom camera image

- Use just one camera in your Zoom room, not two

Using the Browser

- If you drag/open PDF files e.g. notes into your browser, such as Chrome, it can be displayed in a tab

- ITSC says there is a problem if you use the Safari browser with the Canvas web site, so don't use that browser

Use Python instead of a Calculator

- You cannot use a physical calculator

- You cannot use a calculator program on your computer

- **Use Python** for any calculations
  – for example, use the Python shell

No Extra Hardware

- You cannot use an extra monitor during the exam

- You cannot use any extra device during the exam

- If you make notes on an iPad or equivalent device, before the exam you can convert them into PDF files and drag them into your browser for reference

Be Good

- Obviously, these are not allowed during the exam:
  - Direct communication with others
    - E.g. whatsapp, wechat, discord, etc
  - Indirect communication with others
    - E.g. communication via a web site comments page
- Invigilators will closely monitor the exam
- For anything inappropriate, action will be taken later
- Remember there are very strong penalties

After the Practice Midterm Exam

- We will mark your practice exam and release the marks a day or two after the practice exam

- We will also send you another PDF file which contains your practice exam questions together with the correct answers to your questions

- The questions and answers will be briefly explained, probably in the following lecture

After the Midterm Exam

- We will mark your midterm exam and release the marks a couple of days after the midterm exam

- We will also send you another PDF file which contains your midterm exam questions together with the correct answers to your questions

- The questions and answers will be explained, probably in the following lecture

Preparing for the Exam

- The exam is not really a test of memorisation, it is more of a test of understanding how to program

- One thing you can do is:
  - Go through the notes and make sure you understand them
  - Go through the labs and make sure you understand them (we won't release solutions)
  - Go through the interactive examples and make sure you understand them
  - Download the examples and run them, try amending them and check you understand them

Useful Things To Be Released Soon

- More interactive practice pages

- Previous midterm exams:

  - Lots of previous midterm exams will be released as interactive web pages so you can easily test yourself

  - We will also release some PDF midterm exams

  - You can see video discussion of every question

- Previous midterm exam search system

What the Midterm is Worth

- Remember that we will assess you at the end of semester using two different methods

- Here are the two assessments we will use for every student
  - Midterm 24%, lab projects 36%, final exam 40%
  - Midterm 0%, lab projects 42%, final exam 58%

- We will automatically use the best assessment for you at the end of semester

- If you don't do the midterm, you simply get zero for it