

University of Toronto at Scarborough
CSC D84 – Artificial Intelligence, Winter 2015

Course Information (last update, Jan. 1, 2015)

Course Instructor: **Francisco J. Estrada**
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TA: **Haozhang Li**

Course web page:

Web page: <http://www.cs.utoronto.ca/~strider/d84>

Please note that important course-related information will be posted periodically to the web page. It is your responsibility to check back regularly so as not to miss any important announcements.

For course-related questions, email me directly at the address shown above. Be sure to have D84 in the subject line, otherwise your message will go to spam. I will post common questions and answers to the web page periodically.

Lectures and Tutorials

Lectures: **Mon 9:00-10:00 IC 230**
Wed 9:00-10:00 IC 230

Tutorials: **Thu 13:00-14:00 IC 120**

Office Hours: **Anytime!** – *Whenever my door is open, you are welcome to come in and get help.*

Please check for any last-minute changes at
<http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/index.php?pg=timetable@courses>

Accessibility and inclusiveness: All students are welcome. The course instructors, TA, and all students enrolled in the course are expected to treat everyone with proper respect and dignity.

Textbook

Please note that I will build this course on a variety of references, so your best reference will be the ***notes you will be taking while in class***. There is an inherent learning value in taking your own class notes rather than simply sitting and listening to a lecture. If you are not convinced, take a look here:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~acskills/success/notes.html>

Make sure you keep a set of notes that ***makes sense to you***. Note that this doesn't mean simply copying down what I write on the board, but synthesizing, summarizing in your own words, and adding your own thoughts to what you write.

It is always useful to have backup, so for this course you can look for further information in the following sources:

Poole and Mackworth, “Artificial Intelligence – Foundations of Computational Agents”. Available free on-line at: <http://artint.info/html/ArtInt.html>

Of course, the classic AI reference book is also a good choice

Russel and Norvig, “Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach”

You are ***not required*** to acquire a textbook for the course.

Course Grading Policy and tentative dates

<i>Item</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Weight</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Assignments (One per each major learning unit – weights will be specified in the assignment handout)	TBA	35.00%	Implementations of major AI algorithms in Python.
Midterm Test	TBD	25.00%	In-class test – 50 min.
Tutorial Participation	Each week	5.00%	Doing the prep-work, and contributing during tutorial
Final Exam	TBA	35.00%	Comprehensive

Please note: ***You must obtain at least 35% on the final exam to pass the course***

All assignments are individual.

Late Policy

Start early, and finish your assignment promptly. It only becomes more stressful as the due date nears. Don't leave things until the last minute or you will have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with our discount policy:

<i>Days Late</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
0	0.00%
1	-15.00%
2	-30.00%
3	-50.00%

We are not unreasonable, if you are unable to complete an assignment on time for legitimate reasons, notify me by email to make suitable arrangements. Written justification will be required if you miss the midterm test. See below.

Illness, missed assignments or tests

If, due to exceptional circumstances you have to miss an assignment deadline or the term test, contact me directly at the earliest possible convenience to make suitable arrangements. In either case, you must present a written description of the reason why you missed the deadline or test, as well as supporting documents (e.g. medical certificate). ***The written notification and supporting documentation MUST be handed in within a week of the missed deadline or test.*** If these documents are not handed in on time, you will receive a mark of **zero** for the corresponding component of your grade.

In case of a missed midterm, a make-up test will be carried out at a suitable time and place. Since students taking a make-up test will have more time to prepare, this test may include additional material beyond what was covered in the original midterm. ***Note that missing both the midterm and the make-up exam will result in a mark of zero for the term test component of your final grade.***

Remark policy

We take great efforts to ensure your assignments will be graded fairly and with care. However, in rare occasions mistakes may occur.

It is your responsibility to:

- a) Pick up your graded assignments and midterm on time
- b) Check that the posted grade matches the grade on your paper
- c) Bring to my attention any discrepancies or marking errors

You have **one week** from the date the assignment/midterm is available for pickup to report any errors.

Notes on academic honesty and plagiarism

The university takes academic offenses very seriously. Any instances of plagiarism detected during the course will be submitted to the department and a proper sanction will be determined. Please note it's not up to the instructor to determine the sanction, once you have committed an offense, and we have detected it, there is an established procedure for dealing with the offense that we are required to follow. You can read about it here:

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>

The bottom line is this: Don't cheat! if we catch you it will go badly for you. Any of the following is considered an offense: forgery, unauthorized assistance or aids, impersonating anyone else, plagiarizing, double-dipping, any other form of misrepresentation or fraud. Assignments are intended to help you learn the material, work them out yourself and it will pay out in the end.

Important dates

Monday, Jan. 5	- First day of classes
Monday, Feb. 16	- Family day, university closed!
Tue. Feb. 17-Fri Feb. 20	- Reading week. Study for your midterm
Sunday, Mar. 22	- Last date to drop without penalty
Monday, Apr. 6	- Last day of classes
TBA	- Final Exam

Full listing of important dates from the registrar's office:

http://www.uts.utoronto.ca/~registrar/calendars/calendar/Sessional_Dates.html