ECS 32A: Exam #1 Details

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Summer Session #1 2020

Contents

1 Changelog

You should always refer to the latest version of the syllabus.

- v.1: Initial version.

2 Probable Exam Format

This exam will be a timed Gradescope quiz that will be proctored over Zoom. While in the Zoom meeting, you are required to have your face visible through the webcam at all times. The purpose of proctoring through this Zoom meeting is to ensure that it is truly you who is taking the exam. The Zoom meeting will be open at 2:10 PM. The exam (i.e. the Gradescope quiz) should become available around 2:13 PM. Once you start it, you will have 75 minutes to finish. (Thus, if you start at 2:15 PM instead of 2:13 PM, you will still have 75 minutes.) The exam will lock at 3:30 PM, at which point I will close the Zoom meeting.

All audio will be muted during the meeting. This means that you can use headphones or ear buds and listen to music, if you want. I am allowing this because I know that for some students, they may not have access to a quiet environment or control over how loud the others they live with are. Please do not use any of the disruptive features such as the "Raise Hand" feature during the Zoom meeting; if you need my attention for whatever reason, use email, as I will constantly check it during the exam.

The exam is open note, open keyboard (since you need to type your answers somehow), etc. I might also recommend that you have scratch paper ready, just in case. **You are not allowed to search for answers online. You are not allowed to ask each other for help. As stated in the syllabus, cheating on exams will be rewarded with an F in the entire course.** You are allowed – and for some problems, *advised* – to use an editor such as the Mu editor or Python IDLE, so do make sure that you have an editor that you are comfortable with. You are ***not*** allowed to consult me or the TAs for hints on the correct answers, but you *are* allowed to ask *me* for clarifications on the questions, over email.

If you finish the exam early, leave the Zoom meeting; no need to let me know. Zoom generates a log of all of those who enter and exit the meeting.

If you want, you can set a virtual background on Zoom.

If you are having connection issues due to being in the Zoom meeting, please shoot me an email immediately (yes, during the exam).

If you are a student who has accommodations that you have informed me about, then I should contact you soon about how the exam might be handled differently in your case. Please email me if I do not contact you soon.

2.1 Regarding Specific Exam Problems

I have not fully decided on what exam #1 will look like, but below is a general idea of my plan. I *will* provide practice questions, probably on Thursday.

- Some number of conceptual questions (maybe around 30% of the points).
- Some problem-solving questions (maybe around 70% of the points) for which you will write code for small problems and ideally make sure that they work on whatever editor you prefer (e.g. Python IDLE, the Mu editor) before pasting your code into Gradescope. There will be a lot of time for these parts. This means that some of you may finish the exam much more quickly than other students, which is fine by me.
  - 1-2 problems that are similar to the programming assignment #1 problems.
  - 1 problem that involves conditional statements.
  - 1 problem that involves a `while` loop.

3 List of Topics

Below are a list of topics that you should make sure that you understand before exam #1. Not all of these topics will appear on the exam.

3.1 Introductory Lectures (Week #1 and Slide Deck #1)

- `print()`
  - `sep`
  - When whitespace matters.
  - Newline character.
  - Printing with `.format()`.
- Variables. Assignment operator (`=`).
- `round()`
- Math.
  - Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, division with truncation, modulo, exponentiation.
  - Order of operations.
  - Arithmetic shorthands.
- Using single quotes vs. double quotes and when escaping a quotation mark is necessary.
- Conditional statements.
  - Relational operators: `==`, `!=`, `<`, `<=`, `>`, `>=`.
  - `if`, `elif`, and `else`. Chained conditionals.
  - `pass`
  - Nesting.
  - Logical operators. Short-circuit evaluation.
  - Boolean values.
- String comparisons. What it means for one string to be "less than" another string. Know the rules on slide #30 of slide deck #1.

3.2 Slide Deck #2: Iteration with `while` Loops

As stated in a previous Canvas announcement, the full slide deck is not yet available. All slides talked about in lecture including up to the Thursday (July 2) lecture are fair game.

- Structure of a `while` loop.
- Understand all of the examples.
- Infinite loops.
- `break`
- `continue`

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