Course Information

CSC 373H5: Algorithm Design and Analysis

Mississauga Campus — Winter 2006

Course Topics

Standard algorithm design techniques: divide-and-conquer, greedy strategies, dynamic programming, linear programming, randomization, and others (such as local search). Students will be expected to show good design principles and adequate skills at reasoning about the correctness and complexity of algorithms.

Instructor

Richard Krueger office: SE 4063 e-mail: krueger@cs.toronto.edu

Web Site http://www.cs.utoronto.ca/~krueger/csc373h/

The web site is the primary source of information about the course, including assignments, notes, marks and announcements. You are responsible for all announcements posted to the course web site, so please check it regularly.

Lectures

Wednesdays, 9:00am-11:00am in room SE 1104 (First lecture on **January 4** — last lecture on **April 5**.)

Tutorials

Fridays, 12:00noon–1:00pm in room NE 286 (First tutorial on **January 13**)

Office Hours

Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30am–12:30pm in SE 4063, or by appointment.

Textbooks

Required: Algorithm Design, by Jon Kleinberg and Éva Tardos, Addison Wesley, 2006. See the course web site for some additional references.

Marking Scheme and Schedule

Component	Weight	Date
Assignment 1	7.5%	January 27
Term Test 1	15%	February 8
Assignment 2	7.5%	February 17
Assignment 3	7.5%	March 17
Term Test 2	15%	March 22
Assignment 4	7.5%	April 5
Final Exam	40%	April 17–29

Note: To pass the course, students must obtain a minimum mark of 40% on the final exam.

Course Policies

Grading: Most of the problems in this course will involve proofs or counterexamples. The goal of each assignment is not only to measure a student's comprehension of the course material but also to evaluate his/her ability to communicate ideas clearly. Therefore, answers must be concise, clear, well thought out and presented neatly to obtain full marks. Up to 20% of the marks available for a question will be deducted for overly long, rambling, sloppy or unclear answers, at the grader's discretion.

20% Rule: It is important to know both how to solve problems and when one does not know how to solve a given problem. Hence incorrect answers may be given zero credit, whereas if you recognize that you cannot solve a problem and state only "I don't know how to answer this question," you will be given one fifth (20%) credit on the problem.

Homework: Textbook readings will be assigned prior to each class, and should be completed before lecture. Homework assignments should be submitted directly into the course drop box by the specified due time.

Lateness, Absence and Extensions: Late assignments will generally not be accepted. In the case of a missed test, a mark of zero will be recorded. No make-up test will be provided. Only in exceptional circumstances will requests for extensions for assignment deadlines or excuses for missed tests be entertained. Any request for special consideration must be presented to the course instructor (not a TA) with all supporting documentation as soon as possible.

Remarking: Any dispute over the grading of an assignment or test should be stated in writing and submitted along with the original copy of your work. Disputes can be taken to the instructor only if the grader's reply is not satisfactory.

Plagiarism (Collaboration in Homework)

The work you submit must be your own and cannot contain anyone else's work or ideas, without proper attribution. Plagiarism is a form of academic fraud and is treated very seriously. You may discuss general approaches to assignments with others, but you should not leave such discussions with any written material provided by or copied from another person. In particular, the actual writeup of your assignment must be done in isolation from others. This ensures that your solution is truly your own, that you understand the course material, and that your grade reflects your own understanding.

Note that it is a serious offense to help someone commit plagiarism. Do not let others look at your solutions, even in draft form. If you are unsure whether an activity may constitute plagiarism or undue collaboration, consult the instructor immediately.

Please do not commit plagiarism, for your own sake. If you are having trouble with the course, come speak to us, that's why we're here!

Important Dates

Deadline to add S courses: January 17, 2006 Reading Week (no classes): February 20–24, 2006

Deadline to drop S courses: March 7, 2006 Classes end: April 11, 2006 Final exams: April 17–29, 2006