General Information

Course Instructor: Robert Robere
Office: CoRE-419
E-Mail Address: robere@cs.toronto.edu
Lecture Times: Tuesday, Thursday from 3:20 PM — 4:40 PM. (First class January 22nd)
Lecture Room: Tillet Hall Room 116. (Til-116)
Office Hours: Weekly, but exact time TBD
Course Homepage: www.cs.toronto.edu/~robere/cs452

Grading Scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (10)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm (1)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final (1)</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Above, participation is defined as: actively participating in lectures and class exercises, picking up your marked tests and assignments.

This course will have weekly assignments with a break for the midterm and for reading week. The assignments will be posted on the course website. **Assignments must be submitted at the beginning of class on the due date.** Assignments must be cleanly handwritten or typeset using a suitable program (e.g. LATEX). If you are not familiar with LATEX please see the course website for some useful links.

Note that this is a “proof” course: typical assignment questions will ask you to formally prove or disprove various formal mathematical statements. The mathematics in the course will be almost completely self-contained — all that’s needed is a solid background in discrete mathematics and some mathematical maturity.

Textbook

The textbook for this course is *Introduction to the Theory of Computation*, 3rd ed., by Michael Sipser. (In practice, the second edition is also fine, if you can find a used copy, but the first edition is pretty out-of-date by now). For supplementary references please check the course website.

Communication Policy

Communication in this course (outside of lectures or office hours) will be through two channels: e-mail and the class forum. Email is the preferred way to contact the instructor and the teaching assistants for personal issues. Feel free to email the instructor regarding any course related personal issues.
Please use descriptive subject lines for your emails and include “CS452” or “CS508”. Please send email only from your official Rutgers email address when contacting us. We will try to answer your emails in 2 working days. You should not rely on getting same-day answers (particularly near assignment deadlines).

Please post content related questions on the forum so other students can also benefit from them. Finally, please refer to the course website and the course forum at least once a week for announcements.

Late or Missed Work Policy

Life is busy, and on a week-to-week basis that the absolute amount of homework can vary quite heavily. Because of this, we will allow six (6) grace days for the submission of assignments. Use of grace days must obey the following rules:

- A single grace day is worth up to 24 hours of submission time from the original due date. For example, assignments are due at the beginning of class (3:20 PM on Thursday) — the use of a single grace day would give the student a 24 hour grace period until 3:20 pm Friday.

- Grace days may only be used once, and cannot be further subdivided (there are no “half grace days”). For example, if an assignment is submitted at 8pm on Thursday, one grace day is still considered to have been used.

- If an assignment is submitted late through the use of a grace day, it must be submitted electronically to the instructor via e-mail. If you foresee this happening try to type it up, or at least ensure that your handwriting is good and the scan of the assignment is clearly legible. If it isn’t legible then the assignment will not be accepted.

- If an assignment is submitted late using a grace day, please record on the assignment how many grace days were used.

- Grace days are non-transferable, and there are no “refills”.

- If all of the student’s grace days have been used then late assignments will not be accepted.

In my opinion this is the best way of dealing with late homework because it maximizes your control — on weeks with lots of other work you can use a grace day or two to give some extra breathing room on the homework in this course.

If you miss a homework deadline or a test because of a medical issue or serious personal emergency get in touch with me immediately. In the case of a missed midterm, there will be no make-up test, but if we consider your reason for missing the test to be valid, we will use your final examination mark to compute your mark for the missed midterm test.

Academic Offences

Rutgers University has strict rules against plagiarism. You must not submit work belonging to others as your own. It is considered an academic offense and will be dealt with accordingly. The work you submit must be your own, and if you are going to get help from any resource (books, online resources, other people, etc.) other than the course material (textbook, course lecture notes) you must acknowledge them explicitly and give proper credit to them in your work.

For this course, you have the permission to discuss and work on assignments together with other students, but you must prepare the written solutions alone. It is fine to get help to understand, but the work you submit must represent your understanding in your words. You must be able to explain what you have
submitted to the instructor orally without any previous preparation or notice during the semester. To make sure that you are writing what you have understood in your own words, do not take any notes from your discussions, wait a few hours before writing any notes related to them, and do not show your written answers to other students before due dates. **Both copying assignments and allowing others to copy your assignment are strictly forbidden.**