Course Information

Instructor: Torsten Hahmann
Office Hour (UPDATED!): Tuedays, 5:15 to 6:45 pm, BA 4261 (starting Sept. 20th)
Email: torsten [at] cdf [dot] toronto [dot] edu

TAs:
Alexandra Goultiaeva t7goulti [at] cdf [dot] toronto [dot] edu
Bahar Aameri bahar [at] cs [dot] toronto [dot] edu
Atalay Ozgovde atalay [at] cs [dot] toronto [dot] edu
TA office hours will be posted during the term.

Email Policy Contact designated TA for questions relating to assignments, instructor for other things. Please put [384] in subject header. Text only emails, please.

Course Web Site: www.cs.toronto.edu/~torsten/csc384-f11/

Discussion Board: https://csc.cdf.toronto.edu/bb/YaBB.pl?board=CSC384H1F

The discussion board will not be moderated; it will be primarily a tool for students to communicate with one another, not a forum to ask the instructor or a TA questions. If you have questions, please email them directly to the instructor or, if regarding to an assignment, to the TA in charge. The website will be the primary tool by which you will find updates about the course, assignment clarifications, etc.

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE THROUGH THE COURSE WEB SITE AND IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO VISIT IT FREQUENTLY.

Lectures: Mondays, 6 to 9 pm, Bahen (BA) 1200
Please plan to attend all 3 hours of contact time; they will usually be used for lectures. Occasionally, the 8 – 9 pm slot will be used for tutorials.

First class: Monday, September 12, 6 pm
One of the TAs will go over the course information sheet and start with introductory material. For more specific concerns (regarding prerequisites, special accommodations, etc.) please wait until the first lecture on Sep 19 or, in urgent cases, email me.
There also will be a short tutorial on Prolog on Sept. 12.

Textbook: *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach, 3rd Ed. (2009), Russell & Norvig*

- You are expected to read the chapters as indicated on the course web site.
- We will be covering only material from the Sections I – IV of the book.
- 2 Copies on 24h reserve in the Engineering and Computer Science Library.

Outline: We will cover the following areas:

- Search (Uninformed Search, Heuristic Search, Game-tree Search, Backtracking Search).
- Logical representations and reasoning (First-order Logic, Resolution).
- Classical automated planning.
- Representing and reasoning with uncertainty (Probabilities, Bayes Nets).
- Decision making (planning) under uncertainty.

Prerequisites: CSC324H1; STA247H1/STA255H1/STA257H1;
CGPA 3.0/enrolment in a CSC subject POSt.

If you lack the CGPA/enrolment requirement, the CS undergraduate office will eventually remove you from the course. Other prerequisites will not be checked.

CSC324 is a prerequisite because you require knowledge of Prolog to succeed in this course. We will provide 1 tutorial, but it is your responsibility to know Prolog. You will also need to know rudimentary probability theory for the last section of the course, some statistics course will do. Basic familiarity with Propositional Logic (as covered in CSC165 or CSC236/240 or in the chapters 7.3 and 7.4 of the textbook) is assumed.

It is your responsibility to learn background material that was not covered in your prior courses on your own.

Evaluation: Your grade for this course will consist of the following parts:

- **3 Assignments: worth 15% each (total 45%)**
  Assignments will be a mixture of programming and theoretical work.
  - Assignment 1 (Search): due Oct. 14, 3 pm
  - Assignment 2 (CSP, Knowledge Representation): due Nov. 11, 3 pm
  - Assignment 3 (Planning, Uncertainty): due Dec. 02, 3 pm
- **In-Class Test (Midterm): worth 20%**
  The test will cover material from the first part of the course. You will be responsible for material covered in lectures, tutorials, your first assignment, and the relevant book chapters (as mentioned on the course website).
- **Final Exam: worth 35%**
  The exam will cover the entire material of the course. You will be responsible for material covered in lectures, tutorials, assignments, and the relevant book chapters (as mentioned on the course website).

  You must receive at least 40% on the final exam in order to pass this course.

Assignment Late Policy:

- Late assignments will be handled based on a system of "grace days", as follows: Each student begins the term with 3 grace days. An assignment handed in from one minute to 24 hours late uses up one grace day. 24:01 to 48 hours late uses up two grace days, etc.
- Once you have exhausted your grace days, no assignments will be accepted late.
- The grace days are intended for use in emergencies (e.g., hard drive crash, printer failure or TTC breakdown). Do not use them to buy an extension because of a busy week or you will be out of luck in a true emergency.
- If you have a medical reason (bring a doctor's note) and have exhausted your grace days, talk to the instructor.
- If you are at risk of missing a deadline due to a busy week, rather than use your grace days, you should hand in a working version of a simpler program. This will be easy to do if you have written and debugged series of programs that accomplish more and more of the assigned problem.
- Start your assignments early, so that you can get a feel for how much time they are going to take you to complete. Don't wait until the last minute to start an assignment.

Silent Policy

A silent policy will take effect 24 hours before an assignment is due. This means that no question will be answered, whether it is asked on the discussion board, by email, or in person.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism – or simply, cheating – is taken to be the handing in of work not substantially the student's own. It is usually done without reference, but is unacceptable even in the guise of acknowledged copying. It is reprehensible, and the penalty will be severe.
It is not cheating, however, to discuss ideas and approaches to a problem, nor is it cheating to seek or accept help with a program or with writing a paper. Indeed, a moderate form of collaboration is encouraged as a useful part of any educational process. Nevertheless, good judgement must be used, and students are expected to present the results of their own thinking and writing. Never copy another student's work -- it is plagiarism to do so, even if the other student "explains it to you first." Never give your written work to others. Sharing work with others for the purposes of plagiarism is also a violation. Do not work together to form a collective solution, from which the members of the group copy out the final solution. Rather, walk away and recreate your own solution later. If you are really stuck on a problem, don't panic ... just come and talk to the instructor or one of the TAs.

For details on the meaning of plagiarism and how it is dealt with at this university, see:
http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~fpitt/documents/plagiarism.html

Some Important Dates to Remember

- Mon Sep 12 First class, Prolog tutorial.
- Sun Sep 25 Last day to add the course.
- Mon Sept 19 A1 out.
- Mon Oct 10 THANKSGIVING, no class.
- Fri Oct 14 A1 due.
- Mon Oct 17 A2 out.
- Mon Oct 24 In-class test.
- Thu Nov 03 Last day to drop the course.
- Mon Nov 07 FALL BREAK, no class.
- Fri Nov 11 A2 due.
- Mon Nov 14 A3 out.
- Fri Dec 02 A3 due.
- Mon Dec 05 Last Monday class.
- Wed Dec 07 Make-up class.
- Dec 09 – 20 Exam period (final exam).