

Course Syllabus

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Welcome to CSC108! This course provides an Introduction to Computer Programming. By the end of this course, you should be comfortable programming in Python, understand why good style is critical, and be familiar with core computer science topics like algorithms and complexity.

The material posted on Quercus is required reading. It contains important information: assignment handouts, the policy on missed work, links to the online discussion forum (Piazza), the announcements page, and more. You are responsible for all announcements made in lecture and on Quercus.

Communication

To contact the course instructors regarding personal issues and emergencies please use this email address: csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu (<mailto:csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu>)

Sign your email with your full name, student number, and UTORid.

For general course-related questions such as clarifying a concept, asking about an assignment, etc., please use Piazza or visit us during office hours.

Do not use Quercus messaging for anything related to CSC108.

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Textbook

The textbook Practical Programming (3rd ed): An Introduction to Computer Science Using Python 3, is available as an eBook at: <https://pragprog.com/titles/gwpy3/practical-programming-third-edition/> (<https://pragprog.com/titles/gwpy3/practical-programming-third-edition/>). The textbook is optional.

Instructors

Instructor	Sections
Demetres (dee) Kostas	LEC 5101: W6-9
Email : csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu)	
Office Hours: Wednesday 4-6pm in BA2270	

Marking Scheme Summary

- Orientation: [Navigating the Course](#)
- Orientation: [Managing Expectations](#)
- Orientation: [Course Policies for Technical Issues](#)

The following items will contribute to your grade: weekly exercises (prepare, perform), assignments, a midterm test, and a final examination. All assessments must be completed alone (no partners or groups). The Marking Scheme is shown in the table below:

Assessment/ Survey	Count	Total Weight	More information
Prepare Exercises	11	5%	Each worth 0.5%. Best 10 of 11.
Perform Exercises	11	15%	Each worth 1.5%. Best 10 of 11. (.75% for PCRS component and .75% for MarkUs component)
Assignments	3	25%	A1 (5%), A2 (10%), A3 (10%)
Term Test	1	15%	Written in person during lecture time.

Final Examination	1	40%	To be scheduled in the final exam period. To pass the course, students must earn at least 40% on the final exam.
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PCRS: Prepare, Rehearse, Perform

- Also see: [PCRS](#)

Prepare (5%)	<p>We will post lecture videos and problems that cover the course topics for the upcoming week. After watching the videos and working through the problems, you must complete the Prepare exercise.</p> <p>Each Prepare exercise is worth 0.5% (best 10 of 11) and is due Monday by 1:00 pm (except for Victoria Day, when it is due on the Tuesday -- 23rd).</p>
Rehearse	<p>Next, you will practice applying the concepts covered in the Prepare videos by completing activities of various kinds and working through more complex examples.</p> <p>You'll practice the material during your lecture time with the support of your instructor and teaching assistants. These activities are not for course credit, but are designed to help you get the practice you need to successfully complete the Perform exercises.</p>
Perform (15%)	<p>Finally, using the PCRS, you'll complete a Perform exercise based on material covered in the Prepare and Rehearse phases.</p> <p>Each Perform exercise is worth 1.5% (best 10 of 11) and is due on the Friday of the week by 4:00 pm.</p>

Lectures and Office Hours

Lectures: During lectures, you will practice the concepts covered in the preparation videos by working together with your peers on activities and worksheets. Before coming to class you should download (and perhaps print) copies of the worksheets for that week. You will find the worksheets for the week posted usually on the Monday for that week.

Video Recordings: We currently plan to record the classroom (the quality is not great) lectures starting the second week of class.

Office Hours: Instructor Office Hours will be every Wednesday 4-6pm in BA2270. There will also be ample additional office hours preceding each of the three assignments, and both the term and

final tests. See Office hours for additionally scheduled hours.

[More details including the Office Hours calendar](#)

Term Test

The term test will cover material from lectures, exercises, and assignments. The term test is of 120 minutes duration and will be written in person. It will be scheduled at some point during the mid-term exam week (of June 19th). More information about the content of the test and the rooms will be provided closer to the date of the test.

Final Exam

The final exam covers the whole course, and takes place in person during the final exam period. It is scheduled and administered by the Faculty of Arts and Science. More details on the final exam will come later in the term.

Assignments

The due dates for assignments are on a Wednesday, and are officially **due at 4pm**:

- Assignment 1: June 7th
- Assignment 2: July 12th
- Assignment 3: August 2nd

The assignments will be submitted electronically, using MarkUs. You will log in using your UTORid and password. To submit your work:

1. Navigate to the MarkUs page for the particular assignment
2. Click on the "Submissions" tab near the top.
3. Click "Add New File" and use the "Choose Files" button to choose a file.
4. Click "Submit". You can submit a new version of a file later (before the deadline, of course).

Once you have submitted, click on the file's name to check that you submitted the correct version!

Assignments: Late Policy

There is a one-hour grace period after an assignment deadline, during which no penalty will be applied. Assignments submitted after this one-hour grace period are late and will be accepted only under the policy on special consideration and accommodations below.

Assignments: Special Consideration and Accommodations Policy

We recognize that unexpected problems, illness and disability-related barriers sometimes make it difficult to submit assignments on time. For this reason, we are adopting a policy of radical generosity with respect to assignment submissions. You may request an extension of up to one week for an assignment submission by emailing the course email with a brief explanation of your situation. This is intended primarily as feedback and not to judge the validity of the request. However *you must do this before the deadline (or during the grace period)* anything else will not be graded.

When an extension is granted under this policy, MarkUs will continue to display the original deadline and it will appear as if your submission is late. After we grade your assignment, the penalty assigned by MarkUs will be waived. The maximum extension that can be allowed is one week. Any assignments submitted beyond the one week extension and the one-hour grace period (even 1 second beyond) will not be graded.

This policy is intended to cover students who are registered with Accessibility services and require extra time to complete assignments as well as students who discover that they are unable to meet the original assignment deadline. Do not use it lightly to simply shift the original deadline. For example, if a student has been granted an extension of 1 week and then becomes ill on the extended deadline, **no further extension will be given** unless the student has been ill for more than 7 days or the student's college registrar is involved for extremely extenuating circumstances. Note that this policy only applies to assignments -- not to prepare or perform exercises which must be submitted on time. **No late submissions will be graded for prepare or perform exercises.**

Assignments: Doing your Own Work

Academic Integrity is taken very seriously. The department uses software that compares programs for evidence of similar code. Please read the Rules and Regulations from the U of T Governing Council (especially the Code of Behaviour on Academic

Matters): <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>

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Please also see the information for students from the Office of Student Academic

Integrity: <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity> (<https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/academic-advising-and-support/student-academic-integrity>)

Please don't copy. We want you to succeed and are here to help. Here are a couple of general guidelines to help you avoid plagiarism:

- Never look at another student's assignment solution, whether it is on paper or on the computer screen. Never show another student your assignment solution, including by pasting parts of it into a group chat. This applies to all drafts of a solution and to incomplete solutions. If you find code on the web that solves part or all of an assignment, do not read, use, or submit any part of it! A large percentage of the academic offenses in CS involve students who have never met, and who just happened to find the same solution online. If you find a solution, someone else will too.

- Do not seek solutions online, or help outside of the CSC108 course staff. For example, do not post or look at posting on sites like Chegg. These sites contribute to a large number of our academic offense cases each term.
 - Online tutors are also often problematic, as they often cross the line and tell students what code to write - and then work with multiple students who all end up submitting nearly identical code.
 - The easiest way to avoid plagiarism is to only discuss a piece of work with the CSC108 TAs or the CSC108 instructors.
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Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca> (<http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca>) as soon as possible.

Students who require accommodations for the midterm test need to register with Test & Exam Services.

Special Consideration for missed midterm

Students experiencing illness or other emergencies that prevent them from being able to write the midterm test, can apply to the Course Coordinator for special consideration. You will be required to affirm that you are abiding by the [Code of Behaviour on Academic](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf) (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf>), in particular that it is an offence

to engage in any form of cheating, academic dishonesty or misconduct, fraud or misrepresentation not herein otherwise described, in order to obtain academic credit or other academic advantage of any kind

That is, that you are truly experiencing an emergency, and acknowledge that to falsely claim so is an academic offence. Applying does not guarantee that you will be granted special consideration.

To apply for special consideration on a missed midterm, please send an email to the course email **ASAP**. You will receive an email response to your request within 1-2 business days.

IMPORTANT: *Submit your request soon as possible if you find yourself in such a situation. It is easier to resolve situations earlier rather than later.* If your emergency will affect your ability to complete coursework in multiple courses, we recommend you also talk to your registrar. You should also complete the absence declaration form on ACORN.

Special Consideration for Other Homework

The policy on radical generosity for assignment deadlines, should cover all illness, disability-related barriers, and other special considerations for Assignments. A student who has been ill **for the entire 7 days between the assignment deadline and the extension date**, may contact us through the course email address.




The reason that we allow students to count the best 10 of 11 (for prepare exercises and perform exercises) is so that they can miss an exercise due to illness or other more unexpected circumstances. Students who are ill for **more than one prepare or perform exercise**, can email the course email (csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu (<mailto:csc108-2023-05@cs.toronto.edu>)) to request special consideration on the weighting of their completed work. Special consideration will not be granted for students who are only ill for a single prepare or perform exercise.

Remark Requests

Mistakes sometimes happen when marking. If you feel there is an issue with the marking of your test, you may request that it be remarked. Remark requests are accepted for two weeks after tests are returned, and will be completed before the final grades are submitted at the end of the term. You must give a specific reason for each request, referring to a possible error or omission by the marker. Remark requests without a specific reason will not be accepted.

To request a remark for a test, please see the announcement about the test result availability for details.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
	 Assignment 1 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/305469/assignments/1073043)	
	 Assignment 2 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/305469/assignments/1073044)	
	 Assignment 3 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/305469/assignments/1073045)	