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 all course tools, 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: csc108-2023-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc108-2023-01@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. Your message will likely not be received.

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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

Sadia Sharmin is the Course Coordinator, which means that she and her instructional support staff deal with all administrative issues (ex. missed work, problems with your grades, the course website, and TA issues).

Instructor	**Sections**
Sadia Sharmin (Course Coordinator)	LEC 0301 & 0302: M2-4, W2-3
Paul Gries	LEC 0101: M10-12, W10-11 LEC 0201: M1-3, W1-2 LEC 5101: M6-8, W6-7
Fernando Yanez	LEC 0401: M3-5, W4-5
Email : **csc108-2023-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc108-2023-01@cs.toronto.edu)**	

Marking Scheme Summary

- Orientation: **Strategies for Success**
- Orientation: **List of Course Tools**

- Orientation: **Course Policies for Technical Issues**

The following items will contribute to your grade: weekly exercises (prepare, perform), assignments, two term tests, 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	10%	Each worth 1%. Best 10 of 11. (.5% for PCRS component and .5% for MarkUs component)
Assignments	3	25%	A1 (6%), A2 (9.5%), A3 (9.5%)
Term Test	2	25%	Written in person during lecture time. The test on which you get a higher mark will be worth 13.5%, the other will be worth 11.5%.
Final Examination	1	35%	To be scheduled in the final exam period. You must earn 40% or above on the final exam to pass the course; otherwise, your final course grade will be no higher than 47%.

PCRS: Prepare, Rehearse, Perform

- Also see: **PCRS**

Note: The lowest prepare and lowest perform exercise get dropped to allow those who join the course late or fall ill one week to not be penalized for this. Do *not* use this "best 10 of 11" rule to skip an exercise unless you *really* need it, because it's hard to predict if there will come another week later on in the term when it would have been more useful. So, don't waste it! :)

Prepare (5%)	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. Each Prepare exercise is worth 0.5% (best 10 of 11) and is due Monday by 10:00 am.
Rehearse	Next, you will practice applying the concepts covered in the Prepare videos by completing activities of various kinds and working through more complex examples. 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.
Perform (10%)	Finally, using the PCRS, you'll complete a Perform exercise based on material covered in the Prepare and Rehearse phases. Each Perform exercise is worth 1% (best 10 of 11) and is due Friday by 4:00 pm, except for the last perform which is due on Thursday, December 8th by 4:00 pm.

In the PCRS system, each exercise will be "out of" however many options there are for a Multiple Choice question, and how many test cases there are for Python questions.

To compute your PCRS mark (for either a Prepare or Perform component), each Multiple Choice question will be scaled to be worth 1 mark, and each Python programming question will be scaled to be worth 3 marks.

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. Instructors will post materials presented in their class (often including worksheet solutions) on the lecture page for their section.

Video Recordings: Except for section LEC 5101 which has online synchronous lectures, we will not be recording lectures in CSC108.

Office Hours: Office hours will be held both in person and online at varying times each week. Check the **Office Hours** page for the up-to-date schedule and information on where/how to join these sessions.

Term Tests

The term tests will cover material from lectures, exercises, and assignments. Each term test is of 50 minutes duration and will be written in person. You will write your tests during your scheduled lecture time on February 8 and March 15. More information about the content of the tests and the rooms will be available on Quercus closer to the date of the tests.

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

Assignments: Submission Guidelines

The due dates for assignments are:

- Assignment 1: Tuesday, January 31st by 11:59pm
- Assignment 2: Tuesday, February 28th by 11:59pm
- Assignment 3: Tuesday, March 28th by 11:59pm

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. (Note: Remember to value both your physical and mental health! We recognize that feeling emotionally unwell can be just as debilitating toward getting coursework completed

on time.) So, we are adopting a policy aiming to be as flexible as possible for a course of this size: You may request an extension of **up to one week** for one or more of the major assignment submissions by completing a form that will be made available when each assignment is released.

Just a note that if you do receive an extension this way, MarkUs will still 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 the three major 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 (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm)

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.

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 term tests

Students experiencing illness or other emergencies that prevent them from being able to write the term tests, can fill out the form linked at the end of this section to request special consideration. You will be required to affirm that you are abiding by the **Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011**, 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, complete **this form (https://forms.office.com/r/dh7pRbT44Z)**. 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 flexible extension policy 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.

As for the PCRS exercises: 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 unexpected circumstances. Students who are ill for **more than one prepare or perform exercise**, can email the course email (**csc108-2023-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc108-2023-01@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
Fri Jan 13, 2023	**Install Required Software** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=599770&include_contexts=course_292884)	12am
Mon Jan 16, 2023	**Prepare Exercise due** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609232&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Fri Jan 20, 2023	**Perform Exercise due** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609195&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Jan 23, 2023	**Prepare Exercise due** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?	10am

Date	Details	Due
	event_id=609233&include_contexts=course_292884)	
Fri Jan 27, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609196&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Jan 30, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609234&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Tue Jan 31, 2023	Assignment 1 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/292884/assignments/967968)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Feb 3, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609197&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Feb 6, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609235&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Wed Feb 8, 2023	Test 1 (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609858&include_contexts=course_292884)	12am
Fri Feb 10, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609198&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Feb 13, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609237&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Fri Feb 17, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609199&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Feb 27, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609236&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Tue Feb 28, 2023	Assignment 2 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/292884/assignments/968934)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Fri Mar 3, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609200&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Mar 6, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609238&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Fri Mar 10, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609201&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Mar 13, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609239&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Wed Mar 15, 2023	Test 2 (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609859&include_contexts=course_292884)	12am
Fri Mar 17, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609202&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Mar 20, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609262&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Fri Mar 24, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609203&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm
Mon Mar 27, 2023	Prepare Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609263&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Tue Mar 28, 2023	Assignment 3 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/292884/assignments/990975)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Mar 31, 2023	Perform Exercise due (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609204&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm

Date	Details	Due
Mon Apr 3, 2023	**Prepare Exercise due** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609264&include_contexts=course_292884)	10am
Thu Apr 6, 2023	**Perform Exercise due** (https://q.utoronto.ca/calendar?event_id=609205&include_contexts=course_292884)	4pm