Course Syllabus

Jump to Today ✎ Edit

Hello!

Welcome to CSC111! This course is a continuation of CSC110Y1 and extends principles of programming and mathematical analysis to further topics in computer science.

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.

Please read through this course syllabus carefully to familiarize yourself with the content, logistics, and policies of CSC111.

All significant course announcements will be made on Quercus on the **Announcements (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/336825/announcements)** page. You are responsible for reading all course announcements.

CSC111 Teaching Team

This term, both lecture sections have the same instructor (who is also the course coordinator) – Sadia Sharmin :)

Here is me with my parrotlet, Dr. Chirly (pronounciation: CHUR-lee), on top of my head!

Other than me, you may also hear from our administrative support Yun Wu, our head TA Hana Darling-Wolf, our MarkUs and auto-testing administrator Sophia Hyunh, or your classroom and tutorial TAs who you will be seeing regularly throughout the course. :)

How to get in touch with us

What not to do

Do **NOT** use Quercus messaging for anything related to CSC111. Your message will likely not be received. Do **not** send emails to course instructor's personal email addresses either, where they are likely to get lost in our usually flooded inboxes. Instead you can do any of the below, depending on your situation –

For personal issues/emergencies

To contact the course instructors regarding personal issues and emergencies, please post a **private post** on our **Ed discussion board (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/336825/external_tools/20579)** . Private posts should be reserved for *personal questions* (making appointments, remarking requests, missing class, etc.). Otherwise, please post publicly (you can make yourself anonymous to your peers on a public post, if you would like) so that the rest of the class can benefit from the discussion as well :)

If you do not feel comfortable with Ed, you can also get in touch via this email address: **csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu)** Sign your email with your **full name, student number, and UTORid**.

We will try to respond to email by the end of the next business day. However, it may take longer, especially near due dates. If you do not hear back after a few days, please do not hesitate to send a follow-up email. (Note: Sadia is better at monitoring Ed more regularly, so responses via Ed may be slightly faster.)

Tip: sometimes students may be nervous about emailing a professor for the first time. We've prepared a **an advice page on emailing your professors (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/160038/pages/emailing-your-professors?module_item_id=3748253)** that you might want to check out!

General course-related questions

For general course-related questions such as clarifying a concept, asking about an assignment, etc., please always use **Ed Discussion (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/336825/external_tools/20579)** over email. This is our course online discussion forum and chatroom. Please post all of your questions about the course material and assignments on Ed so that everyone can benefit from your questions. We will monitor the discussion board regularly, but please answer questions from other students—helping someone else learn is one of the most effective ways of truly mastering a subject.

General questions, personal questions, and sometimes just to chat

Last but not least, come see me during weekly office hours – more on that **here (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus#oh)** ! You can come in on a drop-in basis with any general course-related questions (or – during less busy weeks – even just to chat).

Sadia's regular weekly office hours (*beginning from the week of January 15th*) are as below:

Tuesdays 11:30am to 12:30pm, Location: **BA 4290 (https://map.utoronto.ca/?id=1809#!m/494470)** (in-person)

Wednesdays 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Location: Zoom at **https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/84245010690 (https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/84245010690)** *(Passcode: 110110)*

We will also have some **one-on-one appointment times** available throughout the semester. More on this will be announced later! Keep an eye out on Quercus announcements for details.

What is on this page

There is quite a lot of information on this page, and we get it, reading this much at once can be hard! So, we are splitting it up for you in multiple sections, with links to each section below:

- **Lectures (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#lectures)**
- **Office Hours (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#oh)**
- **Tutorials (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#attending-tutorials)** (overview) – more details **here (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/tutorial-expectations)**
- **Assessments (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#assessments)**
  - **Weekly Preps (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#preps)** (overview) – more details **here (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/weekly-prep-expectations)**
  - **Assignments (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#assigns)** (overview) – more details **here (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/assignment-expectations)**
  - **Tests (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#tests)** (overview) – more details **here (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/term-test-expectations)**
- **Technology requirements (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#technology-requirements)**
  - **Software setup (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#technology-requirements)**
  - **The Department of Computer Science Teaching Labs (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#technology-requirements)**

- Textbooks and resources (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#textbooks-and-resources)
- Accommodations and accessibility services (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#accommodations-and-accessibility-services)
- Special consideration for term tests (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#special)
- Special consideration for other homework (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#special)
- Remark requests (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#remark-requests)
- CSC111 Community Code of Conduct (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#csc110-community-code-of-conduct)
- (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#assigns) Copyright notice (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#copyright-notice)
- Switching to CSC108 (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#switching-into-csc108)

We also highlighted key parts throughout. :)

Lectures

The first lecture is on **Tuesday, January 9**. Lectures start at "U of T time", which is 10 minutes past the hour, and end on the hour. This allows for 10 minutes of travel/break time if you have back-to-back classes. *Note*: Since our Monday 9am lecture falls during "rush hour" for those of you commuting, I will begin the 9am lecture at 9:15am instead to give you some extra buffer for getting to class on time.

Lectures	LEC0101	LEC0201
Meeting Time and Location	Tuesday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (Location: BR 200) Thursday, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (Location: SF 1105)	Tuesday, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (Location: MS 3154) Thursday, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Location: HS 610 (https://map.utoronto.ca/?id=1809#!m/494459?s/))

Attendance in lecture is not graded, but is considered a mandatory part of the course.

Lecture recordings

LEC0201 will be participating in the University of Toronto's *Opencast Content Capture Pilot*, which will automatically record lectures and post them on the **OCCS Student App (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/external_tools/11190)** . However, because of the amount of active learning that will take place during lecture, please note that simply watching these videos is *not* a substitute for attending class! Our recommendation is to use these recordings for review purposes only, or if you miss a lecture due to extenuating circumstances. If you did miss the lecture, we strongly recommend working through the in-class exercises (which are posted separately on Quercus) when we reach those points in the lecture, so that your experience is as close to the live classroom experience as possible. These recordings are meant for your personal learning, and you may *not* distribute these recordings or make your own (please see the **Copyright notice (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/assignments/syllabus/#copyright-notice)** below).

Office hours

Each week, I (Sadia) will hold drop-in office hours that provide an informal setting for students to drop in and ask questions or just chat about the course material (or, during less busy weeks, we can just chat about cats, board games, and other good things in life). You are welcome to attend any of the scheduled office hours (Please attend, even just to say hi!)

Our office hours are *student-driven*, meaning teaching team members won't have any material prepared. Instead, the discussion will be based on whatever questions you'd like to ask. Most office hours are also *group-based*, meaning we generally stick to questions that aren't specific to any particular student, but rather to course concepts and answers that every student can benefit from.

If you have a personal matter to discuss, you may attend Sadia's online office hour session on Wednesday where you can request a private breakout room for a one-on-one conversation. If you have such a matter to discuss but the online times do not work with your schedule, feel free to use this link *(link coming soon)* to book a one-on-one appointment.

Tutorials

At the end of each week, you will participate in a two-hour tutorial, which is an opportunity to reinforce and extend your learning from lecture that week.

NO TUTORIALS DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS. The first tutorial is **Friday, January 19**. Like lectures, all tutorials start at "U of T time", which is 10 minutes past the hour.

Similar to CSC110, the tutorial meeting times are a place to gather with classmates to work on exercises (some weeks, additional tutorial handouts will be available, whereas other weeks, tutorials will serve as "office hours" for any exercises/projects that are due soon). You are allowed to attend any tutorial

section, even if you are not officially registered in it, as long as there is space in the room (if space is lacking, students officially registered in the section will be given priority for attending).

Section	Day & Time	Delivery Mode & Location
TUT0101	Friday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	In Person: BF 323
TUT0102	Friday, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	In Person: BA 2185
TUT0201	Friday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	In Person: BA 2145
TUT0202	Friday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	In Person: BA B024
TUT0203	Friday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	In Person: HA 401
TUT0204	Friday, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	In Person: HA 410
TUT0301	Friday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	In Person: BA 2195
TUT0302	Friday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	In Person: BA 2165
TUT0303	Friday, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	In Person: BA 2175
TUT0401	Friday, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	In Person: BA 2159
TUT0402	Friday, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	In Person: BA 2185

Assessments

Note: *The tests and exam will be held in-person on campus, with no exceptions.*

The following table summarizes the course assessments:

Assessment	Percent	Details	Due Date
Preps	8%	8 weekly preps, 1% each (no preps in the first week, last week and two term test weeks - Week 6 and 11)	Tuesdays before 9am (starting from Week 2)
Exercises	12%	4 exercises, 3% each	*All exercises are due on Fridays at midnight.* Exercise 1: January 26 before 11:59pm (midnight) Exercise 2: February 16 before 11:59pm Exercise 3: March 8 before 11:59pm Exercise 4: March 22 before 11:59pm
Course Project 1	8%	Open-ended creative project to be done individually or with a partner	Monday February 5 before 5pm
Course Project 2 - Proposal	2%	Written proposal for course project 2	Wednesday March 6 before 5pm
Course Project 2	8%	Open-ended creative project to be done in groups of up to 4 students	Monday April 1 before 5pm
Term Tests	25%	Higher scoring term test will be worth 14% and the other worth 11%	*Both tests will take place during your regular lecture time (but may be in a different room! Be sure to check test info page – to be made available closer to test date – for details.)*

Assessment	Percent	Details	Due Date
			Test 1: Tuesday February 13, during your lecture session Test 2: Tuesday March 26, during your lecture session
Ethics Modules	3%	2 surveys - worth 0.5% each, 1 written reflection due near the end of the term - worth 2%	Module 1: March 7 Module 2: March 28 *Surveys will be due close to each module date. Written reflection will be due after the second module. Exact dates to be announced.*
In-Person Final Exam	34%	You must receive a grade of at least **40%** on the final exam to pass CSC111. Students who do not meet this threshold (including students who do not write the final exam) will have their course grade lowered to no more than 48.	Final Exam Period – will be announced by the Faculty of A&S later in the semester

Weekly Preparation Exercises (8%)

Weekly preparation exercises ("preps") consist of a few readings and short exercises that you complete before each week of lecture. We have designed these preps to help you stay on track and learn simpler concepts independently so that we can focus on more complex content and skills in lecture and tutorial.

Each prep consists of a short reading from the **CSC110/111 Course Notes (https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc110y/fall/notes)**, a series of short-answer comprehension questions hosted in an online **Quercus quiz**, and then some programming exercises that you will download and submit to using the online **MarkUs** application.

Notes:

- The first prep exercise will be due **Tuesday January 16 before 9am**.

- The final prep exercise will be due at the start of "Week 10" on **Tuesday March 18 before 9am**.
- There will be *no prep* on Weeks 11/12, to give you a bit of a break at the end of the semester! Additionally, there are no preps during the weeks we have our term tests – Week 6 and 11. :)

More information about preps can be found here: **Weekly Prep Expectations (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/weekly-prep-expectations?wrap=1)**

Exercises (12%) and Course Projects (20%)

Exercises will be posted online, and will be submitted to the MarkUs application. Exercises must be completed **individually**.

Exercises and Course Projects: 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.

Exercises and Course Projects: 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 exercises and **up to 3 days** for the course projects by completing this form *(to be made available later)*.

Note that this policy only applies to the four exercises and two course projects – **not** to weekly prep exercises which must be submitted on time. **No late submissions will be graded for prep exercises.**

More information about assignments can be found here: **Assignment Expectations (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/assignment-expectations?wrap=1)**

Term Tests (25%) and Final Exam (33%)

Tests are used to evaluate your learning in a focused setting periodically throughout the semester (term tests) and at the end of the course (final exam). Each term test will take place in-person, during a Monday lecture time, replacing the regular lecture.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You must receive a grade of at least **40%** on the final exam to pass CSC111. Students who do not meet this threshold (including students who do not write the final exam) will have their course grade lowered to no more than 48.

More information about tests can be found here: **Term Test Expectations (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/314174/pages/term-test-expectations?wrap=1)**

Technology requirements

To participate in this course, you must have reliable access to a personal computer to complete course work. A desktop computer or laptop are required; other computing devices, such as Chromebooks, tablets, and smartphones, are **NOT** sufficient to run the software required for this course.

We recommend bringing a laptop to lecture and tutorial, so that you can experiment with and complete various programming-related exercises. However, if you do not have access to a laptop you will still be able to participate and complete almost every exercise on paper, though you will be responsible for printing out exercise handouts and bringing them to class. (See below for information about accessing our department's on-campus computer labs.)

Software setup

You need to complete the CSC111 **Software Installation/Upgrading Guide (https://q.utoronto.ca/courses/160038/pages/setting-up-your-computer-start-here?module_item_id=1346385)** on your personal computer to make sure you have all the required software for this course. *Note*: we are continuing with using PyCharm to display, write, and run Python programs in this course. While we are not grading your use of PyCharm, if you choose to use a different program for Python programming, it will be your responsibility to translate instructions we give for using PyCharm, and your instructors and TAs may be unable to assist you. It is **highly recommended** to use PyCharm for this course, even if you have previously used different software before.

The Department of Computer Science Teaching Labs

As first-year computer science students, you have access to our department's Teaching Lab rooms, located in the Bahen Centre, 40 St. George Street. These lab rooms are a popular study and work location for CS students, and have both computers and printers that you can access. For more information about the teaching labs, please check out **the CS Teaching Lab website (https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/resources/introduction-for-new-students-using-the-teach-cs-labs/https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/resources/intro_for_new_students.html)** .

Textbooks and resources

There is no required textbook for this course. We'll be making use of a set of Course Notes that we have prepared for CSC110/CSC111, available for free online at **https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc110y/fall/notes (https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc110y/fall/notes)** . Roughly half of these chapters will be assigned as prep throughout this term (the second half, continuing from where we left off in CSC110), and these are all required readings for the course.

Here are a few supplementary books and resources that you may useful for this course:

- ***Practical Programming*** (https://pragprog.com/titles/gwpy3/) by Paul Gries, Jennifer Campbell, and Jason Montojo.
- ***How to Think Like a Computer Scientist*** (http://www.openbookproject.net/thinkcs/python/english3e/) by Peter Wentworth, Jeffrey Elkner, Allen B. Downey, and Chris Meyers.
- ***How to Prove It*** (https://librarysearch.library.utoronto.ca/discovery/search?query=any,contains,how%20to%20prove%20it%20daniel%20velleman&tab=Everything&search_scope=U by Daniel J. Velleman.
- ***Discrete Mathematics: An Open Introduction*** *(http://discrete.openmathbooks.org/dmoi3.html)* by Oscar Levin.

Accommodations and accessibility services

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. The Accessibility Services staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let them and us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. For more information on services and resources available to students, including registering for accommodations, please see the U of T Accessibility Services website: **https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as** (https://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as) .

if you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please visit **http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca** (http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/) **as soon as possible**.

Students who require accommodations for the term tests **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 complete homework on time, or write a term test, can request special consideration. To do so, complete the Special Consideration Request Form (to be posted later). 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 for more than a few days, or 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 Exercises and course projects. A student who has been ill **for the entire time between the assignment deadline and the allowed extension date**, may contact us through the course email address.

As for the weekly prep exercises: Students who are ill for a **prep exercise**, can email the course email (**csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu)**) to request special consideration on the weighting of their completed work.

Remark requests

Mistakes sometimes happen when marking. If you feel there is an issue with the marking of an assignment or test, you may request that it be remarked.

For assignments: request a remark on MarkUs for the assignment you feel there was a mistake in marking for. You must give a specific reason for the request, referring to a possible error or omission by the marker. Remark requests without a specific reason will not be accepted.

For tests: please see the announcement about the test result availability for details once test marks are released.

For prompt turnaround, remark requests must be received within **one week** of when the item was returned.

Please note that when we receive a remark request, we may regrade the entire submission, not just a specific question. Your mark may go up or down as a result of the remark.

CSC111 Community Code of Conduct

*[This section is based in part on the **Community Covenant** (https://www.contributor-covenant.org/) .]*

All members of the course staff and all students are part of the same CSC111 community, and we share the common goal of creating a safe and positive learning environment for every student. Each of us is responsible for creating this environment, and must follow the guidelines below when participating in this course.

1. *Use welcoming and inclusive language. Show empathy towards other community members*.

Call people by their preferred names and pronouns. Do not make offensive comments about an individual or group (e.g., gender, sexual orientation, disability and mental illness, or race). Avoid humour or sarcastic remarks based on such comments or stereotypes.

2. *Be respectful of differing viewpoints and experiences. Gracefully give and accept constructive criticism*.

   Look for (and reflect on) ideas and perspectives that are different than your own. Make a genuine effort to thank those who share them. It is natural to disagree with something a member of our community has written, and you are permitted to voice your disagreement. However, when doing so take the following into consideration: try to understand where the other person might be coming from; do not assume the other person's motives or draw inferences from their identity; be polite in your response and state where you agree.

3. *Be professional in your conversations*.

   While conversations about topics unrelated to CSC111 or even the University of Toronto are certainly permitted (and encouraged), keep these conversations professional as you would in the workplace. Do not share sexual or violent content and avoid profanity.

4. *Respect the personal boundaries of each community member*.

   While we encourage you to make use of this course's online platforms to meet each other to form academic and social connections, no one is obligated to do so. Everyone will have different boundaries and comfort levels that may change over time and depending on the situation. When in doubt, ask. If someone has asked you to respect one of their boundaries (e.g., not to contact them), with or without a reason, please respect their wishes. Do not reveal any person's personal information or private communications to a third person (or publicly) without receiving their explicit consent.

If you experience a violation of this code of conduct in a CSC111 space, or witness such a violation (even if it is not directed at you), or have any other concerns, please contact the course staff at **csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu (mailto:csc111-2024-01@cs.toronto.edu)** . We will respond to you in a timely manner and everything you say will be confidential.

Copyright notice

Course materials prepared by the instructor are considered by the University to be an instructor’s intellectual property covered by the Copyright Act, RSC 1985, c C-42. These materials are made available to you for your personal use, and cannot be shared outside of the class or published (made publicly available) in any way. Posting course materials or any recordings you may make to other websites without the express permission of the instructor will constitute copyright infringement.

This notice applies to all course materials, including (but not limited to): course notes, lecture slides, lecture recordings, lecture and tutorial handouts, sample solutions, and assessment handouts, starter code, and solutions.

Lecture and tutorial recordings

You may not make your own recordings of video, audio, or text chat, of lectures or tutorials.

Your course work

Work that you complete for CSC111 (including exercises, assignments, and tests) may not be shared with other students or published, with one major exception (see below). This policy is to both protect the intellectual property of course staff (including, for example, the design and starter files for assignments), and to protect you from committing acts of academic dishonesty. For more information on this topic, see **the Department of Computer Science website (https://web.cs.toronto.edu/undergraduate/portfolio-advice)** .

GitHub (https://www.github.com) is a popular option for computer science students and professionals to both collaborate in teams and publish their work online, including to develop a portfolio for potential employers. As we said in the *Academic Integrity* section, you should not put your work publicly on GitHub. However, you may use GitHub's **private repositories** to store your own work. (See **GitHub's instructions for creating a repository (https://docs.github.com/en/github/getting-started-with-github/create-a-repo)** and select "Private" in Step 4.)

On the Use of Generative AI

Generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT and GitHub CoPilot, are strongly discouraged in CSC111. Here's why:

- One of the **most important goals** of CSC111 is for you to be able to ***read and write code***.
- Use of these tools can give you a false sense of mastery of the course material. Grades are intended to give you some feedback on your understanding of the course material. These tools may help you earn higher grades than your actual level of understanding.
- Students who make use of generative AI to solve unsupervised coursework (e.g. Prep exercises, Assignments) are not developing the programming skills necessary to be successful on both supervised coursework (e.g. Term Test, Final Exam) and future courses (e.g. CSC111 and any other course that depends on mastery of the CSC111 material).
- It is an academic offence to submit work that is not your own without proper attribution, whether that is generated by another human, or by AI.
- Even if you are only using generative AI for studying and practice exercises that are not for marks, **it can sometimes give incorrect answers or explanations (https://flyingbisons.com/blog/hallucinations-of-chatgpt-4-even-the-most-powerful-tool-has-a-weakness)** , even on relatively simple programming questions.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due