

CSC384H1Y Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Contact Information

Section and Room	LEC 5101 BA 1190
Instructor	Jack Zhou
Lecture & Tutorial	Tuesday 6:10 PM to 9 PM (Start: May 5, 2026 End: August 11, 2026)
Office Hour	See Course Website
Course Email	csc384-2026-05@cs.toronto.edu

[Course Website](#)

All course material on Notion Page. Make sure to pin it or favourite it for the semester

Course Overview and Outcomes

This course provides a first and shallow introduction to artificial intelligence (AI). It is an excellent starting point for anyone curious about AI. In this course, you will learn about the theories and algorithms that capture some core elements of computational intelligence and become prepared to dive deeper into a particular topic in advanced artificial intelligence courses. Specifically, you will be learning about algorithms in 5 topics:

The course will cover the following subjects:

1. Search (Uninformed, Heuristic, Local)
2. Constraint Satisfaction Problems
3. Game Tree Search (a.k.a. Adversarial Search)
4. Reasoning under Uncertainty
5. Symbolic Knowledge Representation and Reasoning

How to do well in this course: The following are necessary for doing well in the course, but might not be sufficient:

- Attend the lectures and tutorials, ask questions, participate in class discussions, and go to office hours.
- Review lecture material on a weekly basis, work on tutorial problem sets ahead of each tutorial.
- Start working on assignments early, make sure to test your programming assignments thoroughly, improve the efficiency of your implementation as much as you can.
- Spend (at least) 8-10 hours/week:
 - 2 hours in lectures
 - 1 hour in tutorial
 - 5-7 hours reviewing slides, working on tutorial problem sets and assignments.
- Check the course web page on Quercus and emails regularly, pay attention to the course instructions, policies, announcements and deadlines.
- For deeper understanding of the course material, read the assigned readings after each lecture.

Lectures and Tutorials: The course is scheduled to have three hours of meetings per week. At least two hours of each weekly meeting time will be used for delivering lectures. The third hour is mainly allocated for tutorials but some weeks we might use it for lectures. Students are expected to attend all three hours of weekly meeting times.

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This notice applies to all course materials, including (but not limited to): lecture slides, lecture recordings, lecture and tutorial handouts, sample solutions, and assessment handouts, starter code, and solutions. You may not make your own recordings of video, audio, or text chat, of lectures or labs, whether in person or online.

Your Course Work: Work that you complete for CSC384 (including assignments and tests) may not be shared with other students or published. 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. You should not put your work publicly on GitHub. However, you may use GitHub's private repositories to store your own work.

Recommended textbook (not required):

- Stuart Russell and Peter Norvig, Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach, 3rd edition, Prentice Hall, 2010.
- Lecture slides cover much of the course material.

Evaluation

Summary The following table summarizes the course-work percentages and due dates

Item	Due Dates	Weight
Assignment #1 (Search)	Jun 15, 11 PM	10%
Assignment #2 (CSP)	Jul 6, 11 PM	10%
Assignment #3 (GTS)	Jul 27, 11 PM	10%
Assignment #4 (Probabilistic Bayesian Inference)	Aug 10, 11 PM	5%
Term Test	Jul 7, 6:10PM	20%
Final Exam	TBD	45%

Details

- Assignments: worth 35% in total. There will be three programming assignments and one problem-solving assignment. All assignments are to be completed individually. They will be posted on Course Website, at least two weeks before the due dates. Start working on them early, so that you have an estimate of how much time you need to complete them, and to identify the parts that you need clarification and/or help with. **IMPORTANT:** See the "Policies and Other Instructions" section for information about late submission policies and remark requests.

- **Mid-Term Test:** The term test is scheduled on July 7th, 2026. The duration will be 90-120 minutes
- **IMPORTANT:** If you are unable to attend the term test due to schedule conflicts, If you miss the term test for an approved reason, the weight of the term test will be shifted to the final exam.
- **Final Exam:** The final exam is 3 hours and will cover all the topics discussed in the course. To pass the course, students must obtain at least 40% on the final exam.

Special Considerations

To request special considerations please complete and submit the Special Considerations form (you can find the form link on Course Website from above). We will aim to respond to you within 2 business days. Make sure to include supporting documentation with your request. Please read the new Student Absences page from the Faculty of Arts & Science carefully. It contains detailed information on the recognized forms of documentation and the circumstances under which you should use the Absence Declaration tool.

Policies and Other Instructions

Late Work:

Assignments: Each student has 12 (twelve) grace tokens, each worth a 12-hour extension. You can use these for any assignment, but not more than 4 tokens per any given assignment. Each token is “atomic”, i.e., you cannot use ½ token for a 6-hour extension.

IMPORTANT: The grace token system is designed to provide some flexibility in cases where you require a minor deadline extension due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control. We created this policy because we recognize that unexpected problems, illness, and disability-related barriers sometimes make it difficult to submit assignments on time. However, it’s strongly recommended that you do NOT use your grace tokens to buy an extension, or you will be out of luck in a true emergency. More specifically, avoid using your grace tokens for reasons such as heavy course load, multiple assignments deadlines or tests in the same week, and catching up on missed work because these circumstances are neither unexpected nor outside of your control. If you constantly find yourself in need of extensions, or have difficulty managing stress and time, either contact the course instructors, or your College Registrar, who can suggest wellness counselling, academic advising, and/or learning strategist services.

Special Consideration Policies: You must use your grace tokens in cases where you require a minor deadline extension (2 days or less) due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control. If you need a major assignment deadline extension (more than 2 days), cannot complete an assignment, or cannot write the term test due to extraordinary circumstances beyond your control, please submit a special consideration request as soon as possible (see the “Special Requests” section below). You must provide documentations supporting your request. You can find the list of acceptable documents [here](#). Special consideration will be evaluated on a case-by case basis and is not granted automatically. Sometimes, we cannot grant you exactly the special consideration you seek.

If you miss the term test for an approved reason, the weight of the term test will be shifted to the final exam.

Re-marking Requests: If you feel that a piece of your work has been graded incorrectly, please submit an email to the course email above. Explain your request clearly and briefly and attach the work in question. Remark request for assignments must be submitted through the course email listed above. Make sure to read and understand the feedback you received for your work before submitting a remark request. All remark

requests will be processed within one week after the remark request deadline (i.e., two weeks after receiving the work back).

Discussion Board: General questions about the course organization, material, and assignments should be posted on the discussion board on **Discord CSC384 Summer Server**. The discussion board will be monitored by the instructors and TAs but can also be used for discussion among students. You may NOT discuss the assignment solutions on the board until 10 days after the due dates.

Special Considerations: To request special considerations please complete and submit the Special Considerations form (you can find the form link on Course Website). We will aim to respond to you within 2 business days. Make sure to include supporting documentation with your request. Please read the new [Student Absences page](#) from the Faculty of Arts & Science carefully. It contains detailed information on the recognized forms of documentation and the circumstances under which you should use the Absence Declaration tool.

Email Policy: If you have an administrative issue, please message us at the course email address above. However, if you have a special consideration request, it is sufficient to fill out the respective online form. Please avoid sending us an email unless you must provide information that cannot be included in the Special Considerations form. Please use your university email address and put “[CSC384]” in the subject line of your emails. Compose a short message and clearly describe a single topic. Email response time may be 2 business days or longer; if you do not hear back as your expectation, come to the weekly office hours of either instructor.

Academic Integrity: All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#). If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, please reach out to me. Note that you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from me or from other institutional resources. For example, to learn more about how to cite and use source material appropriately and for other writing support, see the [U of T writing support website](#). Consult the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters for a complete outline of the University's policy and expectations. For more information, please see [A&S Student Academic Integrity](#)) and the [University of Toronto website on Academic Integrity](#).

Generative AI is NOT required to complete any aspect of this course, and we caution you not to rely on these tools to complete your coursework. Instead, we recommend treating generative AI as a supplementary tool only for exploration or drafting content — always remembering to cite any resource you used to generate your answers. Ultimately, you (and not any AI tool) are responsible for your learning in this course and for all the work you submit for credit. Overreliance on generative AI may give you a false sense of how much you have learned, which can lead to poor performance in this course, later courses, or your future career.

Accommodations Policy: Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have an acute or ongoing disability issue or accommodation need, you should register with Accessibility Services (AS) at the beginning of the academic year by [visiting their website, linked here](#). Without registration, you will not be able to verify your situation with your instructors, and instructors will not be advised about your accommodation needs. AS will assess your situation, develop an accommodation plan with you, and support you in requesting accommodation for your course work. Remember that the process of accommodation is private: AS will not share details of your needs or condition with any instructor, and your instructors will not reveal that you are registered with AS.