Course: CSC 373H1S -- "Algorithm Design and Analysis"

Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 2-3pm in Bahen (BA) 1220

Instructor:
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Head TA:
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E-mail:
You can reach both of us csc373-w09@cs.toronto.edu; in fact, we ask that all non-personal course-related e-mails be sent to this address. We will attempt to answer all e-mails sent to this address within 24 hours during the work week (if you do not get a reply, please re-send your message). We may post responses to questions sent to us via e-mail on the newsgroup (after removing the sender's personal information) if we believe the answer to be of general interest.

Course Website & Discussion Group:

Website: http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~brudno/csc373_09
Newsgroup: http://groups.google.com/group/csc373-w09

The course website and discussion group (newsgroup) will contain the most up-to-date information possible regarding the course. We will use the course website to post handouts, information about the course reading and other announcements. We will use the discussion group to answer questions about the homework and anything else of interest to the class as a whole. If you ask us a question that we have already answered on the newsgroup, we will just point you there. We expect that everyone on the class will see announcements made on the newsgroup within 48 hours. You are also responsible for all announcements made in lectures and on the course website.

Office Hours:
Both the Instructor and the Head TA will have regular office hours that will be decided during the first week of classes and posted on the course website. Note that our class will not have a tutorial, so we *strongly* advise you to come to office hours if you are have any questions or problems with the material. If you cannot make any of the office hours you can request an appointment via e-mail.

Textbook:
The required textbook for the course is *Algorithms* by Dasgupta, Papadimitrou and Vazirani. The textbook will be used for readings and exercises throughout the term, and you should buy a copy of it. In some cases the book is rather terse, hence we recommend that if you do not understand something, you should try to read the corresponding material in the Kleinberg & Tardos' *Algorithm Design* book, available on hold at the library. We will periodically supplement the material with other handouts.

Outline:
1. Divide and Conquer (2 weeks)
2. Greedy Algorithms (2 weeks)
3. Dynamic Programming (3 weeks)
4. Network Flow & Linear Programming (3 weeks)
5. Coping with Hard Problems (3 weeks)

Grading Scheme:
Your grade will be based on:
- Three Homework assignments and one programming project (9% of your grade each, 36% total)
- Term Test – March 2nd (24% of your grade)
- Final Exam (40% of your grade)

Notes:
- To pass this course, you must achieve a mark of 40% on the final exam.
- On the term test and final exam (not homeworks), if you cannot answer a question, you will receive 10% of the marks for that question if you leave it blank.

Assignment Submission:
All assignments are due no later than 12pm (noon) on their due date. All assignments must be submitted to the CSC 373 dropbox (location TBA), including assignments submitted late for a lateness penalty (see the next section).

If you require special consideration for one of your assignments hand in your assignment directly to the instructor or head TA, or place it in the instructor's mailbox in PT 283 along with a written explanation and all supporting documentation.

Lateness Policy:
All assignments are due by 12pm (noon) on their due date, unless otherwise stated. During the semester you are allowed one "slip day", that you can use to submit any assignment late by up to 24 hours. After you have used your slip day, we will penalize you 25% of the value of an assignment for the first 24 hours of lateness, and 100% (you will get a zero) afterwards. Note that lateness penalties will be computed as a percentage of the total marks on the assignment, not of the mark you obtain. Late assignments must be submitted directly into the CSC 373H drop box. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Policy on remarking requests:
- All remarking requests must be received within **two weeks** of the date when the assignment or test was returned.
- Your mark will decrease if we find something that was incorrectly awarded too high a mark.
- If there is a simple addition mistake, just show the work to your instructor or head TA.
- For *all other* remarking requests, please submit your assignment with a detailed written explanation of why you believe you received too low a mark to the instructor or the head TA. If you are comparing your work to that of another student, hand in BOTH assignments or tests.

Plagiarism:
Please read the Guidelines for Avoiding Plagiarism page for full details of the course policies and the Faculty's rules. Plagiarism is a form of academic fraud and is treated very seriously. The assignments you hand in must not contain anyone else's work or ideas, without proper attribution. In particular, the actual write-up of your assignments must be done in isolation from others (and without copying from notes or other sources). This ensures that your solution is truly your own, that you understand the course material, and that your grade reflects your own understanding.

The purpose of this course is for you to learn the material, and by committing plagiarism you are hurting yourself. So if you are having trouble with the course, come speak to us, that's why we're here!