

CSCA20: Introduction to Programming

Course Syllabus

Instructor: David Szeto **Email:** david.szeto@mail.utoronto.ca **Office:** IC467

Evaluation:

| Work | Weight | Comment |
|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Weekly Labs | 10% | 1% each, 1 grace lab |
| Assignments (3) | 30% | 10% each |
| Exercises (6) | 25% | 5% each, drop the worst one |
| Final exam | 35% | You must earn at least 40% on the final to pass the course |

Topics:

- Basic commands, Intro to Wing, Python 3
- Functions, Main Programs, Modules
- Booleans, If statements, Strings
- Loops
- While Loops, Lists
- Files
- Dictionaries, Tuples
- Databases
- Extra Python

Labs:

There are weekly labs. These are the “tutorials” that you signed up for on ROSI. Your TA will be in the lab for the full two hours. To earn your 1% per lab, you need to submit the lab work by Saturday at 11.59pm of the week of the lab.

Assignments and Exercises:

Handouts will be available on the course web site. All assignments and exercises are submitted electronically. Both will be graded for correctness, and assignments will additionally be graded for style. Late submissions will not be accepted without a good reason and accompanying documentation (eg. doctor’s note <https://www.utoronto.ca/registrar/verification-illness-or-injury>).

Academic Offenses:

All of the work you submit must be your own and your work must not be submitted by someone else. Plagiarism is academic fraud and is taken seriously. The department uses software that compares Python programs for evidence of similar code. Please read the Rules and Regulations from the U of T Calendar (especially the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters). <https://utsc.calendar.utoronto.ca/4-academic-integrity>

Please don't cheat. It is unpleasant for everyone involved, including us. 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. This applies to all drafts of a solution and to incomplete solutions.
- The easiest way to avoid plagiarism is to only discuss the assignment with your TA and your instructor.

Getting Help:

Besides attending lectures, there are several ways to get help in CSCA20:

- **Closed Labs:** Labs are a great way for you to get some hands-on practice at programming. Your TA will be a Python expert – you should feel free to ask them questions during the lab. You will not only get practice by doing the labs, but you will also get marked on them.
- **Discussion Board:** We'll be using Piazza for class discussion. This should be your first resort for any questions. If you have a question, there's a big chance that someone else will have the same one. If it's already been asked and answered, all you need to do is read the answer! If it hasn't already been asked, you can do your classmates a favour and make the discussion public so that your fellow students can benefit from it. Also, you can post anonymously. Find our class page at:
<https://piazza.com/mail.utoronto.ca/fall2018/csc20h3f/home>
- **Office Hours:** Stop by office hours to ask questions or to hear questions asked by other students. This is a great way to learn.
- **Online Tutorials:** Make use of the excellent tutorials here:
<http://interactivepython.org/courselib/static/thinkcspy/index.html>
- **Email:** As a last resort, feel free to email me. Please try to email me more than 24 hours in advance of a deadline; I make no promises that I will answer assignment-related emails within 24 hours of a deadline. Also, please follow these guidelines for email correspondence:
 - Please check Piazza and read the announcements on the course website to see if your question has already been answered before sending me email.
 - Include a good subject. At the very least, include the course number in the subject of the email, and use a good topic (for example, "CSCA20: A1 question about variables").
 - Sign your full name to the email.
 - Use your utoronto.ca email

Optional Textbook:

CSCA08/A20 Practical Programming 2nd Edition written by J. Campbell et. al: available from the publisher: <http://pragprog.com/book/gwpy2/practical-programming> and from previous terms.

Exclusions:

If you're taking CSCA20, you can't take CSCA08, CSC108, or CSC120