CS 240 – Data Structures and Data Management

Module 0: Administrivia

A. Hunt   O. Veksler

Based on lecture notes by many previous cs240 instructors

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Course Information

- Course Webpage
  http://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs240/
  Primary source for up-to-date information for CS 240.
    - Lecture slides
    - Assignments / Solution Sketches
    - Course policies

- Main resource: Lectures
    - Video lectures on LEARN.

- Textbook
    - Notes by Prof. Therese Biedl, available on LEARN
        - ★ Still under development, some errors possible
        - ★ Chapter X corresponds to Module X.
    - More books on the webpage under Resources

Course Information

- Instructors:
  - Alexis Hunt (she/her), alexis.hunt@uwaterloo.ca
  - Olga Veksler (she/her), oveksler@uwaterloo.ca

- Lectures (slides posted on course webpage)
  - 001: 10:00-11:20 TTh in MC 4059 (Hunt)
  - 002: 11:30-12:50 TTh in MC 4059 (Hunt)
  - 003: 08:30-09:50 TTh in MC 4020 (Veksler)
  - 004: 13:00-14:20 TTh in RCH 211 (Veksler)

  } Same content.
  Same material.

- Office hours, other contact info, etc.
  - See web page

Course Information

Instructional Support

- Coordinator (ISC): Karen Anderson (she/her)

  kaanders [at] uwaterloo.ca

  ▶ Main contact for paperwork

- Assistants (ISAs): Prasanth Arun, Yundi Duan

  cs240 [at] uwaterloo.ca

  ▶ Main contact for questions, Piazza, tutorials

- Office hours (on-line)

  ▶ See webpage

- Grad Instructional Apprentices (IAs):
  Theo Vanderkooy (he/him), Matthew Regehr (he/him)

  cs240 [at] uwaterloo.ca

  ▶ Tutorial creation, delivery, Piazza

- Grad Teaching Assistants (TAs)

  ▶ Marking assignments, assessments

Course Information

Tutorials

- Questions released before the Monday tutorial (on webpage)
- Monday tutorials will go over some solutions
- Sample solutions released after Monday (on webpage)
- First tutorial (on LEARN by video) will cover some LATEX(for Assignment 0)

Assignment 0 to learn LATEX   (6 bonus marks on assignment 1)

Electronic Communication in CS240

Piazza:

https://piazza.com/uwaterloo.ca/Winter2023/cs240

- A forum that is optimized for asking questions and giving answers.
- You must sign up using your uwaterloo email address.
  - ▶ You can post to Piazza using a nickname though
- Posting solutions to assignments is forbidden.

Email: cs240@uwaterloo.ca

- For private communication between students and course staff.
- Send email from your uwaterloo email address
- If using your friendly uwaterloo email, include your 8 character (max) Quest username

Mark Breakdown (Part 1 of 2)

- Final Assessment 40%
  - ▶ TBA by Registrar's Office

- Midterm Assessment 19%
  - ▶ Thurs., March 2, 16:30-18:30

Note: You must pass the *weighted average* of the midterm and the final assessments to pass the course

- Assignments 41% total
  - ▶ 5 assignments each worth 7%, approximately every 2 weeks
  - ▶ 2 Programming Questions in C++, each worth 3%
  - ▶ Due on Wednesdays at 5:00pm
    - ★ Grace period until 11:59pm
    - ★ No support will be provided beyond due time
    - ★ No other lates allowed (documented illness/declared absence → credit transferred)
  - ▶ All assignment to be submitted electronically via MarkUs File size limited to 5MB.
  - ▶ Follow the *assignment guidelines* (https://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs240/w23/guidelines.pdf) Marks may be deducted for hard-to-read solutions.

Mark Breakdown (Part 2 of 2)

- Contingency — Alternate grading scheme
  - In the event the final must be moved online, its weight will be reduced to 30%.
  - The written assignments will be worth 2% more each for a total of 10%.
  - Midterm and programming question weights will not change.

- Academic Integrity Agreement 0%
  - Provided by us but must be student signed and submitted for every assignment, mini test, and each of the midterm and final assessments Component will not be marked without it.
  - Due within 2 days of release of component to students and before starting work on the component.

Cheating

- Cheating includes not only copying the work of another person (or letting another student copy your work), but also excessive collaboration.

- Standard penalties: a grade of 0 on the assignment you cheated on, and a deduction of 5% from your course grade. You will also be reported to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

- Do *not* take notes during discussions with classmates. Wait until at least 30 minutes after before writing or typing

Courtesy

- Cardinal rule: Do nothing that keeps your classmate from learning and understanding.

- Please silence cell phones before coming to class.

- Questions are encouraged— what is unclear to you probably is unclear for others as well!

- Avoid using laptops and other gadgets in class except for taking notes. Think about whether bringing your laptop to class will help you pay attention or not.

  Don't play games or watch videos that will distract your classmates.

Advice

Watch and listen to all the lectures, on schedule and pay attention!

Study the slides before the lectures, and again afterwards.

Read the notes for details, and to get different perspectives on the course material.

Keep up with the course material! Don't fall behind.

If you're having difficulties with the course, seek help – don't wait!