

INTRODUCTIONS

- Instructor: Mihai Pop (mpop at umiacs.umd.edu)
<http://www.cbcb.umd.edu/~mpop>

Class hours: TuThu 12:30-1:45 CSIC 1121

Office hours: TBD

- TA:
 - Rotem Katzir

Class webpages:

<https://myelms.umd.edu/courses/1130480>

<https://piazza.com/umd/spring2015/cmssc423>

Policies

- Attendance - follow University policy
 - written documentation of illness is required (from Dr.)
 - if possible inform me prior to the class you will skip

Students claiming an excused absence must apply in writing and furnish documentary support (such as from a health care professional who treated the student) for any assertion that the absence qualifies as an excused absence. The support should explicitly indicate the dates or times the student was incapacitated due to illness. Self-documentation of illness is not itself sufficient support to excuse the absence. An instructor is not under obligation to offer a substitute assignment or to give a student a make-up assessment unless the failure to perform was due to an excused absence. An excused absence for an individual typically does not translate into an extension for team deliverables on a project.

Policies...cont

- Disabilities

- must inform me during the first 2 weeks of the semester if special accommodations necessary
- request letter from Office of Disability Support Service

Any student eligible for and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to a disability is requested to provide, to the instructor in office hours, a letter of accommodation from the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) within the first two weeks of the semester.

- Religious observance

- must inform me during first 2 weeks of class of any special accommodations
- no additional requests will be accepted after this deadline

Policies...cont

- COMMUNICATION IS KEY!
 - talk to me about any issues whether covered or not by University policies
 - catch me after class, during office hours, or through email
- Note: add “CMSC423” to subject of your emails
- Please use Piazza as much as possible!

Grading & workload

- Class participation and quizzes (10%) [next slide]
- Class teamwork (5%)
- Programming projects (25%)
 - Rosalind exercises
- 2 in-class midterms (30%) & final (30%)
- Late policy: 1 day late – 10 points off; 2 days late – 20 points off; 3 days late – 0 points

Participation/quizzes

- About 20 quizzes pre-class
- You must complete at least 16 for full credit (10%)
- Learners versus Tutors
 - Part of each quiz – question about material
 - If you have no question you become a 'tutor'
 - each class I'll randomly call upon one or more 'learners' to pose their question, and ask one or more 'tutors' to help answer it.
 - if either is not prepared, you lose the credit for the quiz

Teams

- Based on feedback from you I will assign you to teams of 4-5 students
- Teams will help each other learn, work on programming assignments, etc.
- Teamwork will be peer-assessed
- Grading: 5% of grade based on team answering projects in class (grade distributed based on peer-assessments)
- <http://teamwork.umn.edu/>

Academic Honesty

<http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/code.html>

- No cheating on homeworks/projects/exams
- No making up data/results
- No copying of other people's code
- You can work together on homeworks/projects but
WRITE THE ANSWER BY YOURSELF

*I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received
any unauthorized assistance on this examination.*

Advice: how to do well in the class

- Start early on assignments – at least read the assignment after class
- Ask questions – during class, exams, office hours, use Piazza to its full potential
- Be inquisitive – follow up on topics discussed in class: Textbook, Google, Wikipedia
- Get to know your colleagues (Note: team work is encouraged except for exams)

Why active learning

- Because you learn better
- Forces you to learn outside of class – Carnegie unit – 2 hours at home per hour in class

*I hear and I forget,
I see and I remember,
I do and I understand.*
Confucius

Flu/emergency preparedness

- Flu may have a major impact on us
 - illness may make you miss classes, assignments, exams
 - if severe epidemic – classes may be canceled.
- **University resources**
 - http://www.umd.edu/emergencypreparedness/pandemic_flu
- For class
 - Don't come to class if you are sick!!! (wait for 24 hrs after fever/illness ends)
 - Inform me as soon as you can that you will miss class/work
 - Accommodations will be made so nobody falls behind – alternate homework/exam dates, lectures will be online, special office hours....etc.

Flu...cont

- Be prepared: Advil/Tylenol, Sudafed, Gatorade, chicken soup, Purel, tissues
- Get the vaccine (if you can, and it might not help...)
- Wash hands often (esp. before eating)
- If you have a fever (> 100 deg F, 38 deg C) or feel ill/have chills, etc. stay home (no classes, parties, etc.)
- See a doctor.
- **Notify the campus: health@umd.edu**
- **Notify the department: grades.cs.umd.edu (follow "Report Illness" link)**

Weather emergencies

- UMD Alerts (sign up at www.alert.umd.edu)
 - Twitter (&UofMaryland; @UMDRightNow and @presidentloh)
 - UMD homepage (www.umd.edu)
 - www.facebook.com/UnivofMaryland
 - UMD Snowline (x5-SNOW or 301-405-7669)
 - Local news outlets via the Web, TV and radio
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- Quizzes/assignments will still be due as planned.

Midterm 2

- Tentatively on April 9th.
- Passover/Easter?

Quizzes/surveys

- Class survey in ELMS (graded, due Wednesday @ midnight)
- Qualtrics survey (anonymous):
https://umdsurvey.umd.edu/SE/?SID=SV_9mZmjfsS2DF4XCI