CSC148, Winter 2014
course information sheet

CSC148, "Introduction to Computer Science," introduces you to how our discipline thinks in a systematic way about computing. Our hope is to provide you the basics for approaching program design principles such as encapsulation, modularity, and information-hiding, comparing different program implementations for efficiency, and building powerful data structures. Here's a summary of the administrative details for Winter 2014. Please visit the course web page http://www.cdf.toronto.edu/~heap/148/W14/ often, and read email sent to your U of T email for important announcements.

Contact: Each week, other than reading week (February 17th–21st), we'll meet

> **Lecture 0101**: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9–10 a.m., WB116 (Wallberg Building), instructor Danny Heap
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> **Lecture 0201**: Mondays and Wednedays, 10–11 a.m., WB116 (Wallberg Building), instructor Danny Heap
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> **Lecture 5101**: Wednesdays, 6–8 p.m., MS3153 (Medical Science Building), instructor Dustin Wehr
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> . . . for discussion and worked examples. If you have questions that aren't answered in class, Danny's office hours are in BA4270 Mondays and Wednesdays 11–noon, and Thursdays 2–4 p.m. Dustin's office hours are in SF 4306 D on Tuesdays 5–6 p.m. and Wednesdays 2–3 p.m.

Textbook and computing: We'll provide slides and links to readings online relevant to our weekly topics. By virtue of registering in this course, you will have a CDF account, and it is vitally important that you set it up so that you are able to log in. Your CDF account provides computing resources both remotely and within the Bahen building, and it allows you to submit course work.

Syllabus: We'll discuss the following topics:

- modularity, encapsulation, information-hiding, object oriented design
- recursive data structures and recursive programming techniques
- traversal and mutation of linked data structures, including trees
- efficiency, profiling
- algorithms, sorting

Marking scheme: The marking scheme is designed to place a low weight (40%) on the final exam, since we believe this reduces a potential source of stress for students. In order to do this, we have to introduce frequent-but-smaller sources of stress: ten (nearly-weekly) labs, four exercises, a courSe bLOG (SLOG), two assignments, two term tests. These are timed, and weighted, as follows:

Work	Due	Weight
10 labs	every week except week 1 and week 12	10%
SLOG and two assignments	SLOG, week 3 – end of course A1, February 13th, 9:59 p.m. A2 part I, March 6th, 9:59 p.m. A2 part II, March 20th, 9:59 p.m.	24%
four exercises	January 16th, 30th, 9:59 p.m. March 13th, 9:59 p.m. April 3rd, 9:59 p.m.	8%
two term tests	T1, February 26th, during lecture time T2, March 26th, during lecture time	18%
Final exam	some time during exam period	40%

Nuances: Everybody has better and worse days. We aim to give higher weight to your better work. For example, the weights of the assignments and SLOG sum to 24%, so we will give your best work on these three a weight of 10%, and your worst work a weight of 6%, with the remaining piece getting 8%. Similarly, the term tests sum to 18%, so your best effort will have weight 11% and your lesser effort will have weight 7%. After you have completed the 5th lab, you may choose to replace the remaining 5 labs shifting those marks to your term tests (which become worth 23% in that case). The 40% weight of the final is, however, not changeable.

In addition to the other requirements, must you achieve 40% of the marks on the final exam in order to pass this course.

Re-marks: It is very important to us that your work is evaluated correctly, and that occasionally includes re-marking work to see whether we agree with the original grading. On the other hand, there are often urgent tasks during the semester that require our attention ahead of re-marks, for example preparing the next lecture, assignment, test...

Here is how we propose to balance importance and urgency. All re-mark requests must be submitted on MarkUs within 7 days of when the relevant work is handed back. We promise to consider the request before we submit grades at the end of the course.

Lateness, sickness, natural disasters: We don't accept late work, since we have to arrange in advance for grading it, and because we want to be able to discuss solutions soon after the assignment is due, while it is still fresh in everyone's minds. However, if you have special circumstances that force you to miss a deadline, please contact us immediately (usually before the work is due) and fill out either the "Request for special consideration," or the standard medical excuse form (link on this web page) and provide all supporting documentation. We will do our best to ensure there is no penalty for a deadline missed for a valid reason.

Independent work: It is a serious academic offense to pass off somebody else's work as your own for credit. Be sure to give full and generous credit to any person or book (except course instructors and teaching assistants) you consult in solving assignments. If you take notes when you consult a source, quote that source in full.

If you intend to present work as your own, for credit, then you should not look at similar work by other students, in written or electronic form, since looking can easily turn into plagiarism. Don't show your own assignments to other students. Take a couple of hours' break after even verbal discussions of the assignment before writing it up.