

Introduction to the Theory of Computation

CSC 236

Fall 2014

This is a brief administrative summary of CSC 236, “Introduction to the Theory of Computation”.

Please check the [course web site](#) often, and read the emails sent to your registered UofT email address regularly for important announcements.

Instructors:

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Lectures and Tutorials:

L0101: Lectures are usually Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:10–12:00 in MP 102.

One lecture will be on Monday before the first Term Test, and another will be on the “Makeup Monday” at the end of term (which is a Wednesday) — but those are still 11:10–12:00 in MP 102.

Two Wednesday lecture times are for Term Tests, in rooms that will be posted on the course site.

Tutorials are Mondays 11:10–12:00 (except for the one replaced by a lecture).

L0201: Lectures are Thursdays from 11:00–1:00 in LM 162.

Tutorials are Thursdays 10:10–11:00, in rooms that will be posted on the course web site.

Two tutorial times are for Term Tests, in rooms that will be posted on the course site.

L5101: Lectures are Thursdays from 7:10–9:00 in BA 1180.

Tutorials are Thursdays 6:10–7:00, in rooms that will be posted on the course web site.

Two tutorial times are for Term Tests, in rooms that will be posted on the course site.

Tutorials start in the second week of classes.

From the third week onward they each contain a quiz in at the end of the tutorial.

Help Centre: Starting in the second week, the [CSC Help Centre](#) is open Mondays to Thursdays from 4–6PM, in BA 2230.

Office Hours: We (instructors and sometimes TAs), will have office hours starting in the second week.

Check the course web site at the start of each week to see the schedule, which will vary according to the week’s agenda.

Syllabus: We'll discuss the following topics:

- Induction: the principles, techniques, examples, heuristics, pitfalls.
- Recurrences and recursion.
- Program correctness, recursive and iterative.
- Formal languages.

Textbook: The CSC 236 course text is "CSC 236/240/B36 Introduction to the Theory of Computation", downloadable for free from the course web site.

Course Work:

- 4 Assignments.
Due Fridays September 19, October 3, October 31 and November 28, at 10PM.
Assignment 0: 4%.
Assignments 1–3: 9%/8%/7%, weighted from your best to worst.
Total: 28%.
- 8 Tutorial Quizzes, worth 2% each.
Total: 16%.
- 2 Term Tests.
L0101: Wednesdays October 8 and November 5 from 11:10–Noon.
L0201: Thursdays October 9 and November 6 from 10:10–11:00AM.
L5101: Thursdays October 9 and November 6 from 6:10–7PM.
Worth 12% for the one you do best on, and 8% for the other.
Total: 20%.
- Final Exam: 3 hours in the December exam period.
Worth: 36%.