CSC 209  
Software Tools and Systems Programming  
University of Toronto  
Summer 2019

Lecturer: Alan J Rosenthal  
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BA 3218

Lectures: Wednesdays, 18:10-20:00, starting May 8, in BA 1180. Last lecture August 7.  
No lectures or tutorials (or lecturer office hours) during June exam and study break, June 18 through 28.

Lecturer office hours (during the term): Wednesdays, 17:00-17:50, in BA 3218, or by appointment.  
We may move to a larger room sometimes, in which case I will leave a note on my door. See announcement regarding schedule for June 12.

Course web page: https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~ajr/209/

Tutorials: Wednesdays, 20:10-21:00, starting May 8, except for the June break. Please see the course web page for tutorial lab room information and schedule. Last tutorial August 7.

Recommended textbooks:  
A book about C is probably more important than a book about unix. You might not necessarily want to buy the Haviland et al. or Kerrisk books (or any book) as they do not cover the entire course. There is a document about various textbooks on the course web page.

Course topics: The “software tools” model and unix philosophy, i/o redirection, some shell programming, the unix filesystem, the C programming language (syntax, datatypes, storage model), unix processes, the operating system interface, interprocess communication and network communication, introduction to concurrency, introduction to unix and internet security.

Important prerequisite note: This course has a prerequisite of CSC 207. This prerequisite is your responsibility. If you do not have the prerequisites and you do not receive special permission to take the course, you will be removed from the course at some future time when the A&S office does their checks.

Grading scheme:  
- Assignment 1: 7% due Friday May 31 (midnight)  
- Mid-term test: 14% Wednesday June 12, 18:10-19:00, different room (TBA)  
- Assignment 2: 10% due Friday July 5  
- Assignment 3: 10% due Friday July 26  
- Assignment 4: 8% due Monday August 12  
- Labs: 11% best 11 out of 13  
- Final exam: 40% as scheduled during the August exam period

To pass the course you must receive at least 35% (out of a hundred that is) on the final exam.

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Grading scheme, continued:

Assignments are submitted on the computer itself; you don’t hand in any paper. Submission instructions are included on the assignment handouts.

Late assignments will only be accepted under exceptional circumstances and with a written explanation sent separately by e-mail. To submit an assignment late, submit it in the usual way and then send the lecturer an e-mail message or bring him a note.

Any disagreements with the grade assigned to an assignment or the midterm should be submitted to the lecturer, preferably by e-mail, normally within about a week of its return.

Discussion board

There is a discussion board at https://bb-2019-05.teach.cs.toronto.edu/c/csc209 which you are encouraged to use to communicate with other students in this course. However, it is not an official part of the course and we will not necessarily be reading it; see me or TAs in office hours or send e-mail.

Do not post a test message. Wait until you have something to say, then post that.

Serious academic offence warning!

Your work in this course which is submitted for course credit must be your own. Representing someone else’s creative work as your own is an academic offence. There are a number of rules which you must follow to avoid prosecution.

Assignments in this course are individual, so submitting anything which comes from others is an academic offence unless specifically and precisely acknowledged. Similarly, although the labs may be done in pairs, submitting anything which comes from a third person without citation is an offence. It is also an offence to assist others in committing an academic offence.

Therefore, you may not (other than with your lab partner, in the case of labs):

- produce any part of your assignment or lab submission while meeting with others
- look at someone else’s assignment or lab work, completed or partial, before the deadline
- show anyone (other than the instructor or a TA) your assignment or lab work, completed or partial, before the deadline (or any extension they have for special circumstances—best to wait until after the instructor solutions are posted)
- type assignment code into a computer with others
- bring your solution, completed or partial, to any group discussion about an assignment or lab
- take away any written or electronic material from any group discussion about an assignment or lab

I suggest limiting your collaboration with others (other than your lab partner, in the case of labs) to material not to be submitted for course credit, and asking more-specific assignment or lab questions of me or a TA. Students have been prosecuted and convicted for handing in work written for hire, written by personal tutors, copied from the web, or with just a bit too much text borrowed from a friend. It is not difficult for graders to detect excessive collaboration.