Welcome to CSC165!

CSC165, MATHEMATICAL EXPRESSION AND REASONING FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

DAVID LIU
Get to know each other!

What’s your name?
What other courses are you taking this semester?
What did you do over the holidays?
What are you most excited about this year?
Who is David? (Yes, call me David)
What is CSC165 about?

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

• Express statement and problems using precise mathematical language in new and familiar domains.

• Create a mathematical proof or disproof of a given statement in new and familiar domains, choosing from among different proof techniques to use.
Preparation for CSC165

CSC165 does not assume any prior knowledge in formal logic or proofs, or mathematics beyond "pre-calculus."

Some similarities to MAT137/157, but different approach/style and domains of study.
Course website and email

https://www.teach.cs.toronto.edu/~csc165h/winter/
csc165-2019-01@cs.toronto.edu
A typical week in CSC165

Each week, you’ll have:

- Prep readings and comprehension exercises
- A two-hour block each Monday/Wednesday
  - Hour 1 is a traditional lecture
  - Hour 2 consists of active learning exercises to get you working!
Preps

Weekly prep readings are designed to prepare you for the week's material. However, this class isn't fully inverted: *most* of the course content is still taught in lecture.

Readings are followed by a short-answer quiz on Quercus.
Lectures

Lectures are designed to promote active engagement with course content.

You’ll succeed by:
- Completing preps before lecture
- Solving problems in small groups
- Asking and answering questions
## Course assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 preps</td>
<td>4.5% (0.5% each)</td>
<td>Due Mondays before 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem set 0</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem sets 1-4</td>
<td>20% (5% each)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 midterm tests</td>
<td>30% (15% each)</td>
<td>In-class, February 6 and March 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>44.5%</td>
<td>You must score at least 40% on the exam to pass the course.</td>
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Problem sets

Each CSC165 problem set is your opportunity to apply your learning to new and challenging concepts and domains.

Some details:

- Start early!
- Must be electronically **typeset** (Problem Set 0 should help!)
- Often the most challenging part of the course.
- *Start early!!!*
Midterms and final exam

Exams will be on paper, and are largely based on skills and concepts, not simple facts.

*Cramming and memorization are not good strategies for this course.*

Instead, focus on learning and reviewing steadily each week, and you’ll find you don’t need to “study” nearly as much.
Academic integrity

The work you submit must be your own.

Your work must not be submitted by anyone else.

Academic offences are taken very seriously.
Academic integrity

**Do** discuss course concepts, what an assignment is asking, high-level ideas about the solution.

**Don’t** show anyone your work (including rough work).

**Don’t** copy work from *any* source.
“American culture in particular has instilled in us the bizarre notion that to ask for help amounts to an admission of failure. But some of the most powerful, successful, admired people in the world seem, to me, to have something in common: they ask constantly, creatively, compassionately, and gracefully.
Getting help: please don’t be shy!

_Instructor office hours_
- 2-4pm Tuesdays (David)
- 2-4pm Thursdays (Francois)
- 1-3pm Fridays (David/Francois)

_CS Help Centre hours_
- 2-6pm every day

All office hours are in BA2230.
David, alone in office hours
Getting help: please don’t be shy!

Online course forum (Piazza)
- A good place to ask *and answer* questions
- Monitored regularly by course staff

Individual appointments
- By request – email the course address, and please include the purpose of the request and some times you’re available
- (these are generally reserved for special circumstances)
Tips for success in CSC165

- Prepare for, attend, and actively work in lectures.
- Start problem sets early. Time-on-task isn’t enough. You need *elapsed time* to:
  - let ideas percolate
  - get answers to questions that crop up
- Don’t spin your wheels. Come talk to us!
- Practice, practice, practice. You are learning *ways of thinking* and *new skills*, and mastery of these will only come with lots of practice.