CSCI 383 Fall 2009
Theory of Computation

Contact Info

Instructor  Alexa Sharp
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Office      King 223B
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Office Hours MWF 1-2pm T 11-noon

Textbook

We are using Kozen’s *Automata and Computability*, published by Springer.

Course Requirements & Expectations

Ten written homeworks — expect to spend around 8 hours per week on each.

Two take-home tests — expect shorter versions of homeworks.

One final — expect a longer test.

Daily attendance — expect to be in class.

Grades will be posted on blackboard as soon as they are known.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Homework Assignments</th>
<th>60%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance, Participation, &amp; Promptness</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</tbody>
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Homework Timeline / Late Policy

- Homework is due on Wednesdays at 4pm, unless stated otherwise. Late homework is accepted with the following penalty: late homework handed in within 12 hours lose 20%, within 24 hours lose 40%, and so on. Homework over 48 hours late receive no credit.

- You are required to LaTeX your first three assignments (hw1, hw2, and hw3), but after that you may hand-write your assignments if you choose.

- I would very much prefer paper copies of your homework; if necessary, you may send me an electronic pdf document, but try to keep it to a minimum. I already spend enough quality time with the printer.
Honor Code

I take the honor code very seriously, and will report any violations to the Honor Code Committee. This is a class where working with your peers is not only allowed, it is encouraged. However, the assignments you hand in must be written up by yourself and represent your own thoughts and work. In particular, you may discuss ideas with your classmates, but do not write anything down. If you really understand the discussion, you should be able to reconstruct it on your own. **You may not use the internet or other references other than the textbook, unless told otherwise.**

If you do work with a friend or friends, please write your cohorts names on the top of your assignment. This is important, and I certainly think no less of you if you work with your classmates. Separate rules will apply to your exams and tests, which will be explained at the appropriate time. Finally, you must write the honor code on every assignment, quiz, and exam, along with your signature. You know the drill by now. For the record, the honor code is

“I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment.”

Teaching Assistants

Joe Kramer-Miller and Jamie Quadri are teaching assistants for this course; they are in charge of one peer learning session and one office hour per week. Whereas the office hours are individual question-asking periods, the peer learning sessions are group problem-solving sessions guided by the TA, on textbook problems relating to the upcoming assignment. These outside-class meetings are not mandatory, but I will give bonus points for attendance at the peer learning sessions. If attendance at the peer learning sessions is low, I will morph them into extra office hours or something.

Tutors

There are tutors available, provided by Oberlin College. If you think you’d like such a tutor, just contact me and I’ll get you set up. Don’t wait until it’s too late!

Student Disabilities

If you require special accommodation, please speak to me during the first week of class so that I have time to make suitable arrangements. You must be registered the office of Student Disabilities.

Course Info

Select handouts and announcements will be posted on the course webpage at