

CS 314H Honors Data Structures

Lectures:	MWF 11:00-12:00	GDC 5.302
Discussion Section:	W 12:00 - 1:00pm	PAR 206 #52680
Discussion Section:	W 1:00 - 2:00pm	GDC 2.210 #52685
Final Exam:	Saturday, December 9, 3:30-6:30pm	

Name	Position	Email	Office Hours	Location
Calvin Lin	Professor	lin@cs.utexas.edu	MW 3:30-4:15	GDC 5.512
Ujjaini Das	TA	ujjaini@utexas.edu	TBA	TBA
Christopher Hill	TA	christopher.hill@utexas.edu	TBA	TBA
Tapaswini Kodavanti	TA	tk24428@utexas.edu	TBA	TBA
Bobby Youstra	TA	ryoustra@utexas.edu	TBA	TBA

**Course Objectives.** This course has several goals. One is to introduce fundamental concepts in data structures and important concepts in object oriented programming. A second is to develop good programming skills and habits, including for example, good software testing skills. A third is to encourage students to think critically. To accomplish these goals, the course has a heavy programming component, to be completed using Java.

**Textbook.** M. Weiss. *Data Structures and Problem Solving using Java*. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. Addison-Wesley, 2006.

**Supplementary Textbooks.** A good Java reference, such as the following, will also be useful.  
Arnold, Gosling, and Holmes, *The Java Programming Language*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Addison-Wesley, 2000.

A book such as the following will help you learn Java on your own: *Head First Java, 2nd Edition*, by Sierra and Bates.

**Prerequisites.** This course assumes at least a college semester (or a high school year) of previous programming experience.

**Schedule.** We'll cover the following topics, roughly in the following order, although some of these topics are sprinkled throughout the course. Some of the basic topics will be covered extremely briefly. There will also be assigned reading from other portions of the book that are not listed here.

1. **Introduction.** Course overview, administrative matters.
2. **Java.** Basic goals and concepts. (Chapters 1-2)
3. **Object oriented programming.** Encapsulation. Inheritance. Polymorphism. (Chapters 3-4, 6)
4. **Programming Skills.** Xtreme Programming, debugging, testing, application of OO concepts.
5. **Basic data structures.** Stacks, queues, linked lists. (Chapters 16-17)

6. **Algorithm analysis.** (Chapter 5)
7. **Recursion.** (Chapter 7)
8. **Sorting.** Mergesort, quicksort, bin sort, heap sort. (Chapter 8)
9. **Trees.** Traversal. Binary search trees. (Chapter 18-19)
10. **Hash Tables.** (Chapter 20)
11. **Balanced Trees.** Splay trees. AVL trees. Red-Black trees. B Trees. Union-Find trees. (Chapter 22)
12. **Priority Queues.** Binary heaps. (Chapter 21)
13. **Graphs.** Graph algorithms. (Time permitting.) (Chapter 14)

**Attendance.** Attendance is strongly encouraged. Lectures will often contain material not found in the textbook, and any lecture notes that are provided are not intended as a replacement for the lectures.

Unless otherwise instructed, please turn off phones and laptops in the classroom. If you need to use a laptop to take notes or to deal with any disability, please talk to me.

**Group Communication.** We will use Ed Discussion to communicate outside of the classroom. Feel free to use this medium to ask and answer questions, and look here for class announcements, including all handouts. You can access Ed Discussion from our course' Canvas page.

**Computer Accounts.** If you do not have access to a laptop and wish to use the department's labs, which are located in the basement and on the third floor of GDC, obtain a UTCS account by going to the following web page:

`https://accounts.cs.utexas.edu/newaccount`

A UTCS account will be useful for other courses, so you might want to get an account even if you have your own laptop. If you do not have Internet access, the Microlab has machines that will provide access to the above web site.

**Microlab Hours.** For your convenience, the labs are open 24 hours a day.

## Grading

Prog. assignments and pop quizzes	45%	Approximately 7 assignments
Midterm	20%	Thursday, October 12 7:00-9:00pm
Final	35%	Saturday, December 9, 3:30-6:30pm

Unless otherwise specified, assignments are due by **5:00pm** of the due date. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. System problems, printer failures, and the like are routine occurrences and are not considered cause for extending deadlines. To avoid such problems, start early on your assignments.

Requests for corrections to quiz, programming assignment or exam grades must be submitted to the TA within 3 days of the assignment of the grade. Note that when a regrade is requested, the entire assignment may be regraded, so your overall score may go either up or down.

**Programming assignments:** Programs will be graded on clarity as well as correctness.

**Exams.** You may bring *one* page of notes (one sheet of 8.5"×11" paper, written on both sides) to both the midterm and the final.

For those of you who have a conflict with the final exam, the makeup exam will be 7:00-10:00pm on Saturday December 9. **Let me know by September 1 if you will need to take the makeup exam.**

**Illnesses and Absences.** If serious illness prevents you from handing in an assignment or taking a test, you should contact me or the TA immediately if you'd like to receive special consideration.

**Office Hours/Open Door Policy.** My door is usually open when I am in, so please feel free to come in whenever my door is open. In the rare case that my door is closed, I do not want to be disturbed, so **please do not knock** unless you have an appointment with me. Since my schedule is often quite full, you should feel free to make appointments with me via email if you cannot make it to my office hours.

Email is the best way to reach me. Please do not call me on the phone unless you have a true emergency.

**Do Not Share Course Materials with Outsiders.** Except for the syllabus, the material used in this class, including, but not limited to, quizzes, exams, and assignments, may not be shared with anyone outside of the class without the instructor's explicit permission. In particular, please do not post your code on publicly available github sites. The problem with unauthorized sharing of materials is that it promotes cheating.

**How to Succeed in this Course.** Read this syllabus. Read the book *before* coming to class.

This course moves fast, so I encourage you to keep up with the reading and programming assignments. If you get behind, it can be difficult to catch up. If you have any problems or questions, please come talk to me or the TA *as soon as possible* so that we can help.

There may be times when your background has holes relative to your classmates. In these situations, you should certainly seek extra help, but you will at times be expected to do a certain amount of reading and learning on your own. If you are unwilling to do this, you should consider dropping the course.

There may be some of you for whom parts of this course are old material; if this is true, I encourage you to try some of the more advanced, optional parts of the assignments.

Help each other learn. One of the best ways to ensure that you understand a concept is to explain that concept to another person. (Note that while you are not allowed to help each other write programs, I encourage you to discuss concepts that are presented in class and in the book. For example, a particular programming assignment might ask you to use a particular data structure; you are encouraged to discuss the properties and details of this data structure in the abstract, without looking at each other's code.)

Finally, to succeed in this course, it's very important that you learn to think for yourself. For example, you will find that certain aspects of your programming assignments will be underspecified—it's up to you to think about what the right thing to do is.

**How to Fail in this Course.** Ignore the above advice. Assume that you can learn everything from the textbook. Start homework assignments late, and don't start reading the programming assignments until 3 days before they're due.

**No Whining.** I welcome feedback and comments about the course, and we will correct legitimate grading errors that are identified in a timely fashion, but whining is counter-productive and will only irritate me and the TA.

**Collaboration vs. Cheating.** Understand the difference between cheating and collaboration. Allowable collaboration is encouraged. Cheating will lead to failure of the course.

There are many **examples of cheating**, but these include accessing another student's account, looking at someone else's code, copying or downloading someone else's code, or allowing others to copy or access your code. Of course, this means that you should not look on the Internet for code to solve your problems, nor should you ask large language models such as ChatGPT to help you write or debug your code.

If you use GitHub, please make sure that your code is private.

**Examples of allowable collaboration** include discussions and debates of *general* concepts (including Java and its class libraries). A good way to ensure that you are collaborating fairly is to follow the Gilligan's Island Rule:

#### **The Gilligan Island Rule**

You are free to discuss a problem with others<sup>1</sup>, but you may not bring from these discussions any written or electronic notes. After the meeting, engage in a half-hour of mind-numbing activity, such as watching a rerun of Gilligan's Island, before you resume work. This rule ensures that you are able to reconstruct what you learned during your discussion using only your own brain.

Always cite your collaborators with a brief explanation of the degree of collaboration (eg. "Susan and I discussed various approaches to testing our code." eg. "I am using the quicksort algorithm described in Chapter 8 of Weiss").

**Code Reuse.** The code you submit should be your own. The only exceptions: You may use code (with attribution) from our primary textbook and from the Java standard libraries.

**Using Outside Learning Material.** Materials from the internet should only be used for educational purposes. Thus, you can read about linked lists (and these examples could well contain code), but you must not copy any code or be looking at any of this code when writing anything that you turn in.

**If you have any doubts about what is allowed, ask me or a TA.**

**Students with Disabilities.** The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

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<sup>1</sup>Of course, the rule about not looking at anyone else's code still applies.