

CS 240 – Data Structures and Data Management

Module 0: Administrivia

O. Veksler

Based on lecture notes by many previous cs240 instructors

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Course Information

- Course webpage <http://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs240/>
 - Primary source for up-to-date information for CS 240
 - Lecture slides/Course notes (textbook by Prof. Biedl)
 - Assignments/Solution Sketches
 - Course policies
- Main resource: Lectures and course notes
 - in-person, on-campus lectures
- Textbooks
 - Course notes available in protected area of web page
 - watermarked, do not share these files
 - chapter X corresponds to module X
 - More textbooks on the webpage under Resources

Course Information

- Instructor
 - Olga Veksler
 - oveysler [at] uwaterloo.ca
- Lectures in-person, on-campus (Tuesday, Thursday)
 - 001 10:00-11:20 in MC4020
 - 002 11:30-12:50 in MC4020
 - you can switch between sections if there are empty spaces
- Office hours (on-campus and on-line)
 - see web page
 - my office hours online Mon 3:30-4:30 or by appointment
 - start next week

Course Information: Instructional Support

- Coordinator (ISC): Karen Anderson
 - kaanders [at] uwaterloo.ca
 - main contact for paperwork
- Assistants (ISAs): cs240 [at] uwaterloo.ca
 - Taebin Kim, Darren Zhao (part time)
 - main contact for questions, piazza, tutorials
- Office hours (in-person and on-line) – see webpage
- Grad Instructional Apprentices (IAs): cs240 [at] uwaterloo.ca
 - Mushi Wang
 - Matthew Regehr
 - tutorial creation, delivery, piazza
- Grad Teaching Assistants (TAs)
 - marking assignments, assessments, exams

Course Information: Tutorials

- Questions will be released before the Monday Tutorial
 - on webpage
- Monday Tutorial will go over some solutions
- Sample solutions released after Monday
 - on webpage
- First Tutorial (this week) is on-line
 - cover some latex (for assignment 0)
 - assignment 0 to learn latex
 - 6 bonus marks on assignment 1 if you do assignment 0
- The rest of tutorials are in-person (starting Monday, Jan 15)

Electronic Communication in CS240

- Piazza
 - link posted on course web page
 - forum optimized for asking questions and giving answers
 - must sign up using your uwaterloo email address
 - can post using a nickname
 - posting solutions/partial solutions to assignments is forbidden
 - post privately if you think your question hints at assignment solution
 - main source for announcements, read daily
- Course Web page updates occasionally
 - (modules/chapters/assignments)
- LEARN might be used occasionally for videos
- Email cs240@uwaterloo.ca
 - for private communication between students and course staff
 - you should be sending email from your uwaterloo email address
 - include your QuestID

Mark Breakdown

- Assessments: 64% total
 - Final 40%, date period: TBD
 - Midterm 24%, Thursday Feb 29 from 4:30-6:20pm
 - **Must pass the weighted average of midterm and final to pass course**
- Assignments 36% total
 - Written assignments, 30% total
 - 5 assignments each worth 6%, approximately every 2 weeks
 - Programming Questions (in C++) 6% total
 - 2 programming questions (3% each)
 - Due on Tuesdays at 5:00pm
 - all assignments to be submitted electronically via MarkUs
 - file size limited to 5MB
 - grace period until 11:59pm on the due date
 - no lates allowed (documented illness or SDA → credit transferred)
 - may be excused from at most 2 written and 1 programming

Cheating

- Cheating includes not only copying the work of another person, but also
 - letting another student copy your work
 - excessive collaboration
- Cheating penalties
 - grade of 0 on the assignment you cheated on, and a deduction of 5% from your course grade
 - you will also be reported to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies
- Do not take notes during discussions with classmates, wait until at least 30 minutes before writing or typing
- Academic Integrity Declaration
 - must be signed and submitted by student (twice per term)
 - not signed → no credit for the assignment

Advice

- Attend all the lectures and pay attention
- Study the slides before the lectures, and again afterwards
- Read the reference materials to get different perspectives on the course material
- Keep up with the course material, don't fall behind
- If you're having difficulties with the course, seek help