

# CS 240 – Data Structures and Data Management

## Module 0: Administrivia

**O. Veksler**

Based on lecture notes by many previous cs240 instructors

David R. Cheriton School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo

Winter 2025



# 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
  - Course notes available in protected area of web page
    - watermarked, do not share these files
    - chapter X corresponds to module X
- Supplementary resources
  - other textbooks on the webpage under Resources



# Course Information

- Instructor
  - Olga Veksler
    - `oveksler [at] uwaterloo.ca`
- Lectures (Tuesday, Thursday)
  - 001 10:00-11:20 in RCH 112
  - 002 11:30-12:50 in RCH 112
  - you can switch between sections if there are empty spaces
- Office hours (on-campus and on-line)
  - see web page
    - 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
  - Michael Wong, Taebin Kim & Tom Iagovet (part time)
    - main contact for questions, piazza, tutorials
- Office hours – see webpage
- Grad Instructional Apprentices (IAs): cs240 [at] uwaterloo.ca
  - Prashanth Arun
  - Matthew Regehr
    - tutorial creation, delivery, piazza
- Grad Teaching Assistants (TAs)
  - marking assignments, assessments, exams



# Course Information: Tutorials

- Questions will be released before the Friday Tutorial
  - on webpage
- Friday Tutorial will go over some solutions
- Sample solutions released after Friday
  - on webpage
- First Tutorial (this week) is on LEARN
  - 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



# 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
  - modues/chapters/assignments
- Email [cs240@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:cs240@uwaterloo.ca)
  - for private communication between students and course staff
  - you should be sending email from your uwaterloo email address

# Mark Breakdown

- Assessments: 69% total
  - Final 45%, date period: TBD
  - Midterm 24%, Thursday Feb 27 from 4:30-6:20pm
  - **Must pass the weighted average of midterm and final to pass course**
- Assignments 36% total
  - Written assignments, 25% total
    - 5 assignments each worth 5%, 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 Crowdmark
      - file size limited to 5MB
    - grace period until 11:59pm on the due date
    - no lates allowed
      - documented illness → credit transferred
        - may be excused from at most 2 written and 1 programming
      - SDA → can be 48 hours late (5pm on Friday, no grace period)



# 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 early

