**CompSci 260P Spring 2023 Syllabus and Course Reference**

**Lectures** are held MW 6:30 - 7:50 PM. *Students are responsible for the material covered in the lecture and any announcements made in lecture.* The only times you are required to attend is for the exams, which are conducted **synchronously and in-person.** *Students should not assume that a virtual-remote option will be available at any point in the quarter.*

**Contacting Course Staff:** If you have a question that needs the attention of course staff, but can be handled by more than one member of course staff, make a private post on the course’s Ed Discussion board. **If you need to request the professor directly,** please do not use email. Instead, fill out the form on the course webpage listed for this purpose. The professor will check the response section of the form several times a week and will respond directly as needed.

**Students with disabilities:** Any students who feel that they may need accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Disability Services Center [online](https://example.com) or by phone at (949) 824-7494 as soon as possible to better ensure that accommodations, such as alternative test-taking environments or note-taking services, can be arranged for you in a timely way.

**Commercial note-taking** Students are prohibited from selling (or being paid for taking) notes during this course to or by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course. This includes, but is not limited to, a prohibition for providing notes, handouts, slides, assignment descriptions, or code to websites such as Chegg, Koofers, or CourseHero. Violations of this will be treated as a serious violation of the student code of conduct.

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, electronic video and/or audio recording by students is not permitted during classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities unless the student obtains express written permission from the instructor. If permission is granted, any distribution of the recording is prohibited. Students with specific electronic recording accommodations authorized by the Office of Disability Services do not require instructor permission; however, the instructor must be notified of any such accommodation prior to recording. Any distribution of such recordings is prohibited.

**Course announcements**: On occasion, course announcements will be made. They might be made via a post on EdDiscussion, a post on the course webpage, or announced by the professor during lecture hours in class. For announcements made in lecture, you are considered to be aware of them immediately, even if you were not present in lecture when it was made. For electronic announcements, you are considered to be aware of the announcement 24 hours after it has been posted, regardless of whether you read the alert.

**Primary Textbook:** *Algorithms* by Jeff Erickson. This is available at algorithms.wtf; students who prefer a printed copy have an option for that, too. I also suggest reading *Algorithm Design and Applications* by Michael T. Goodrich and Roberto Tamassia. The book is available in hard copy from the usual sources and online at a much cheaper rate.
Grade calculation: you will be evaluated by the following artifacts in the following proportions.

- Six Programming Projects 50%
  - Projects 0 & 1 are worth a combined 10%; projects 2-5 are each worth 10%
- Mid-quarter exams 10%
  - Two at 5% each. This 5% is “just” points earned at the exam itself.
- Core Topic Competency / “Final Exam” 40%, broken up as follows
  - Dynamic Programming 10%
  - Complexity 10%
  - Greedy algorithms (incl. approximations) 10%
  - Divide and Conquer Algorithms 10%

All topics in the “Core Topic Competency” topic will come from exam questions on the topic. It is the plan to have all topics tested prior to the actual final exam, with an option to replace a score at the final exam on a topic-by-topic basis.

Before you can have any work graded in this class, you must get a perfect score on the syllabus quiz. You may take this quiz as many times as you would like, but anything submitted prior to earning 100% on the syllabus quiz will be erased from the gradebook. Furthermore, completing this successfully is required to be added to the system to which all grades are posted.

It is expected that you be polite in all course related interactions, whether with your instructor, TAs, or classmates. Disruptive behavior related to this course may result in a grade penalty, up to and including reduction to an F in the class, as well as referral to appropriate authorities.

The only factor in your grade is demonstrated knowledge in the class, and the only reconsideration requests granted are based on marking error. Requests for a grade bump based on other reasoning, such as scholarship requirements, academic eligibility, or transfer needs, will not be considered. If you need a particular grade in CompSci 260P, the time to consider that is early in the quarter. There is plenty of opportunity for help, practice, and credit during the quarter. On a related note, there are no opportunities for extra credit.

For information about artifact submissions and grading policies, including grade reconsideration requests, please see the document “Artifact Submission and Grading Policies.” That document is incorporated into this syllabus by reference.

Exam Rules: All exams will be held synchronously in class hours. The actual time allowed for non-final exams will be 70 minutes of test-taking. The final exam has 115 minutes allocated.

For more detailed information about the exam rules, refer to the “In-Person Exam Logistics and Rules” document, which is incorporated into this syllabus by reference. You will be expected to abide by the policies in these documents during your exams.

---

1 The syllabus quiz is available at
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjSWWKhsdGGX4bD30upNv7sQXz9aJXzA_O5GwFN3s7Ja9ZfQ/viewform
**Missed Exam Policy:** If you need to miss an exam for any reason, and this is for reasons the instructor accepts, then we may reconsider how to calculate your grade. For reasons the student could have known about in advance, it is expected that the student contacts the instructor as soon as possible after the conflict is known. If the conflict could have been known before the exam, the instructor will not provide any relief if informed after the exam unless it would have been unreasonable to do so prior to the exam. If you need to miss an exam, or if you do miss an exam, you must email the instructor as soon as possible upon knowing this.

*This is especially important for students who might be exposed to illness, especially Covid. If you are sick, especially if you might be contagious, please let your instructor know. Please do not risk your health or that of your classmates to take an exam. I view a student coming to an exam while a reasonable person in their position would believe themselves to be contagious for a sickness to be disruptive behavior, and this will be treated as such.*

**Exam Seating** For students who have a preference for exam seating, such as if you need a desk intended for left- or right-handed students, or if you tend to ask questions during the exam, please fill out this form no later than April 24:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdTJYXZzAYQVkJkKlwypXwnsJ6JWeLHm9gDghPbDBKoWp6A/viewform

**Academic Honesty Policy** Please see the common policy document “Academic Honesty Guide” for information about academic honesty in this course. A copy of that document is available on the course webpage. That document is incorporated into this syllabus by reference.

**Regrade Policy** Please see the common policy document “Artifact Submissions and Grading Policies,” although for CompSci 260P, you need only read the section “Grade reconsideration requests.” That document is incorporated into this syllabus by reference, with the following change: while the policy says to email the instructor in one circumstance, for this quarter, in place of email, use the form on the course webpage.

**Projected Schedule**

There is a projected schedule document posted. Students should read that document to make themselves aware of when homework and programming assignments are due and when exams are scheduled to happen. That projected schedule is incorporated into the syllabus by reference.

**About this Document**

This document is made primarily to communicate to students the plans for the quarter. If any policies in this become untenable, they may be changed. Students should assume all policies are in effect unless told otherwise by the professor.