CS 173: Discrete Structures

Mahesh Viswanathan
3232 Siebel Center

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Fall 2019
Course Staff

- **Instructor:** Mahesh Viswanathan
- **Teaching Assistants:**
  - Tanvi Bajpai
  - Hantian Ding
  - Ruta Jawale
  - Patrick Lin
  - Sahand Mozaffari
  - Dipayan Mukherjee
  - Aniket Murhekar
  - Aditya Shankar Narayanan
- **Office Hours:** To be announced on webpage.
- **Contacting Staff:** Use “private note” in Piazza.
- **Course Aides:** To be announced.

- Belinda Tzen
- Ke Xu
- Peilun Zhang
- Shiliang Zuo
Electronic Bulletin Boards

- **Webpage:** General information, course policies, lecture notes
  https://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs173/

- **Piazza:** Announcements, online questions and discussion, contacting course staff. Sign up at

- **Moodle:** Everything related to homeworks, quizzes, grades, announcements
  https://learn.illinois.edu/
Resources for class material

- **Prerequisites**: Calculus I and (CS 125 or ECE 220).
- **Textbook**: “Mathematics for Computer Science” by Lehman, Leighton, and Meyers. Available on course web-page
- **Video Recording of Lectures**: See course website for link.
- **Discussion Sections**: Problems posted on the course webpage
- **Additional References**:
  - Building Blocks for Theoretical Computer Science: Margaret Fleck
  - See website for more resources
Grading Policy: Overview

Total Grade and Weight

- **Discussion Section attendance:** 4%
- **CBTF Tests:** 38%
- **Written Tests:** 58%
- **Other Optional Work:** 0%
  - Online quizzes on Moodle
  - Homeworks
Discussion Section Attendance

- Every discussion section you attend, you get 0.5%
- You can get a maximum of 4%, cumulative for attendance
- Thus, if you attend 8 (out of 14) discussion sections, you will get the maximum credit (of 4%) for this category.
CBTF Tests

- 5 multiple choice questions. 30 minutes to solve.
- 6 tests in total: Week of 09/09, 09/23, 10/07, 10/21, 11/04, 11/17
- Will test material “since the last CBTF test”. So CBTF Test 1 tests material since the start of semester, and CBTF test 4 tests material covered after CBTF test 3.
- With valid reason, test can be made up the following week (??)
- Best 5 (out of 6) scores will be counted towards final grade.
Written Tests

- 3 questions, 1 hour to solve.
- 6 tests in total: 09/16-09/17, 09/30-10/01, 10/14-10/15, 10/28-10/29, 11/11-11/12, 12/09-12/10.
- Tests on Monday and Tuesday evening between 7pm and 8:50pm. Need valid excuse to change day of test (i.e., Monday to Tuesday or vice versa).
- Will test material since the last written test
- Best 5 (out of 6) scores will be counter towards final grade
- Final exam is a makeup for missed/poor test scores
Optional Work

- Online Moodle tests. Help practice for CBTF tests
- Homeworks help prepare for written tests. *Do not turn in homework solutions*; we will not grade them!
Advice

- Attend lectures and discussion sessions
- Make use of office hours/Piazza
- Study regularly and keep up with the material
- Ask plenty of questions, and promptly. Don’t delay getting doubts cleared
- This course is on problem solving. Solve as many as you can