

Course Syllabus

Course Information

CS 6363: **Advanced Algorithm Design and Analysis**, Fall 2016, Tu,Th 4pm - 5:15pm, HH 2.502

Website: <http://utdallas.edu/~bar150630/cs6363fa16.html>

Professor Contact Information

Benjamin Raichel, Assistant Professor

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Office hours: Thursday 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Additional office hours by request.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

CS 5343

Course Description

The study of efficient algorithms for various computational problems. Algorithm design techniques. Sorting, manipulation of data structures, graphs, matrix multiplication, and pattern matching. Complexity of algorithms, lower bounds, NP completeness.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Class learning objectives	CS outcome
Asymptotic notations, recurrences, algorithm analysis	a,b,c
Divide and conquer algorithms	a,b,c
Greedy algorithms	a,b,c
Dynamic programming algorithms	a,b,c
Graph algorithms, flow networks	a,b,c
NP-Completeness	a,b,c

CS Outcomes

- an ability to understand advanced concepts in theory of computer science;
- an ability to understand advanced concepts in applications of computer science;
- an ability to apply knowledge of advanced computer science to formulate and analyze problems in computing and solve them;
- an ability to learn emerging concepts in theory and applications of computer science; and,
- an ability to design and conduct experiments as well as to analyze and interpret data
- an ability to function in teams and to communicate effectively

Required Textbooks and Materials

Introduction to Algorithms, T.H. Cormen, C.E. Leiserson and R.L. Rivest, Third Edition, McGraw Hill.

Suggested Course Materials

Additional material will be provided in class or posted on the class web site.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

The main course topics will be covered in the following order:

1. Introduction, asymptotic notation, recurrences
2. Iterative, Divide-and-Conquer and Prune-and-Search algorithms
3. Dynamic Programming
4. Greedy algorithms
5. Graph algorithms, network flow
6. NP-Completeness

The course will consist of two halves, each culminating with an in class exam. As such, there is no cumulative final exam. Each half of the class will also have 2 or 3 homeworks each, and will cover roughly half of the above topics.

Midterm examination 1: In class on October 6 (tentative)

Midterm examination 2: In class on December 6 (tentative)

Grading Policy

Homework: 20%, Midterm 1 : 40%, Midterm 2: 40%

For each student, their lowest homework score will be dropped.

Note that when determining your final letter grade the numerical value of your score in each category is less important than your score relative to the class average. That said, there is no fixed curve, i.e. if everyone performs well in the class then everyone can get top grades. I encourage students to talk with me about their grade before considering dropping the course.

Course & Instructor Policies

--No late homeworks will be accepted, unless the student provides a valid documented reason, i.e. medical or family emergencies. I intend to enforce this strict late homework policy, which is partly the reason for allowing the lowest homework score to be dropped.

--If a student is unable to take the examinations on their scheduled dates, he/she should inform the instructor well in advance. Makeup examinations will be scheduled only if the student has a valid medical excuse.

--Attendance may be taken in class (at the instructors discretion). Three consecutive absences with result in an automatic full letter grade drop.

--Any request for a regrade needs to be made within one week of the assignment or exam being returned. Note that a regrade request means “regrade”, i.e. your score could go down. Homework regrade request should be made directly to the TA.

--Students are encouraged to discuss homework problems together, however, students are not to work together when writing down their solutions. Each homework submission must be in the student's own words.

--Students are expected to solve problems without the help of outside sources (i.e. “googling the solution”). If for any reason the student does use outside sources, they must cite them clearly, and their solution must still be put in their own words. Failure to cite sources is considered cheating and plagiarism.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the

Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:
The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22
PO Box 830688
Richardson, Texas 75083-0688
(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.