Prepare for a firehose treatment of AI. This is going to be a really fast-paced class with a lot of work, so you may want to reconsider taking that extra dance class this Summer. There won’t be much time.

The Text


Assignments

There will be homework and labs assigned periodically during the term. All homework and labs will be submitted via e-mail to the TA or on paper at 3350 TMCB. Lab code must be electronically submitted by midnight on the due date or it will be late. See the section on labs for further details. Late homework or labs will receive a 10% penalty for every day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays) late. The maximum late penalty is 50%. No work can be accepted after the last day of class. Note that neither the final day nor the reading days are regular days of class. Once we get to the reading day, I can not accept any work. You are responsible for electronic submission, we will not be responsible for lost or misdirected e-mail.

The Blog

News and updates will be posted to the blog located at [http://aml.cs.byu.edu/cs470spring2005](http://aml.cs.byu.edu/cs470spring2005), which serves as the class web site. Please use the comment facility there to discuss and give help for class assignments. Also place comments on the blog if there are errors so that they may be quickly corrected.

Working Together

As you know, cheating is frowned upon and is not in line with the Honor Code. We will not tolerate it. Sometimes, however, there is a question as to whether a certain behavior is going to be deemed cheating. The policy in this class is a “no take away” policy. If you are to join together in groups to work out homework, the policy is that you take nothing away with you (physically) that you did not bring. In other words, you shouldn’t have new homework answers already written out when you leave that you didn’t have while you were there. Get together, discuss the homework, work out principles and concepts, but do not do it together. If there are further questions, please don’t hesitate to ask. The policy is not there to cause pain, but to offer protection for the innocent. We are very reasonable and will be happy to clarify or alter any ambiguous or stupid policies.

A notable exception to this rule is for labs. For the labs, you are strongly encouraged to work in a group of exactly two people. Some will be allowed to work alone, but that is discouraged considering the magnitude of the load in this class. Especially in this setting, learning is best facilitated when two work together.

Labs

There will be six labs assigned during the course, *all of which must be completed to receive a passing grade in the class*. The labs come in rapid succession and are nontrivial, so do not delay. Get started on them immediately. Labs that have been fully designed and written up may be found at the class [web site](http://aml.cs.byu.edu/cs470spring2005). Check it frequently, as updates and useful information will appear almost daily.

Most of the concepts covered will have an associated lab. It is thus very important that you understand the labs fully, since those will be an important part of your practice for the midterm and final exams. They have been designed to be useful and to have direct relevance to the concepts you are learning. Do not fall behind! If you are struggling with a lab, seek TA help before it comes due. Extraneous circumstances will
be mercifully considered, provided that they are not self-made emergencies that occur on or after the due date.

The labs are all meant to be coded in C and/or C++. This requirement comes from the fact that much of the supporting code will be provided for you. If you desire to code in some other language, you will need to do the embedding work yourself and make it seamless for us to compile and use your code. No support will be provided for other languages.

The format of the labs is consistent throughout the course. All labs provide you with a C API and set of data structures, and you are required to fill in one or more stub functions. This minimizes the need for you to write support code. Since CS 240 is a prerequisite for this class, it is assumed that you have sufficient familiarity with C++ to do well on these labs. If that is not the case, you are encouraged to get up to speed quickly. Knowledge of the concepts taught in prerequisite courses will be essential to success in this class. Please do not burden the overworked TA with questions about language syntax. If you have persistent questions of that nature, please find a good tutorial online. There are tons of them out there.

Groups

It is very nearly a requirement that you work in pairs on the labs. Please avoid the temptation to work alone on the labs, as they are very involved and require more effort and thought than one person will generally have the time and energy to give them. Working in pairs will enhance your learning a great deal, as well. Groups larger than two will not be allowed, and no exceptions will be made.

As you work together, make sure that each member of the team is carrying equal weight and understanding all of the concepts. If labor is divided, take the time to make sure that both team members have complete understanding of everything involved. When submitting your writeup, indicate which person did which parts, and how much time was spent.

Submitting Labs

An electronic submission of code is required for each lab and must be submitted by midnight on the due date. All labs must be passed off in person. The electronic submission is insurance that if a TA is unavailable in time to pass off on the due date, you will still get full credit for being on time provided that the code has not changed.

A sign-up sheet for passing off labs will be posted on the TA’s office door (TMCB 3350) on the due date and up to the following class period. If you are early, just come up to the office and look for the TA. Please be patient with the TA’s if they are late, they may be helping another student. Do not rush to the conclusion that they forgotten you.

The lab writeup is also due on the due date for the lab. Unlike passoffs, timestamps will not help with the writeup. It must be submitted on paper in the office (TMCB 3350). Slide it under the door, even if someone is there (unless you want to actually talk to someone, in which case you should go ahead and knock).

Late Days

As briefly described before, assignments lose 10% of their grade with each day that they are late. However, to encourage you to be early and to account for unforeseen problems, a “buy-back” policy will be instituted. For every two days that a lab is early, one late day will be removed (or ignored!) for another lab. The “buy-back” applies to labs only, not homework and certainly not tests!

Exams

There will be a midterm (which I plan will be given in the testing center) and a final given at the time and place specified by the university. You are expected to take these exams at the specified times. You must pass the final to pass the class.
Grading

Assignments and exams given throughout the semester are categorized and weighted according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>48% (8% each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Scale

Grades will be adjusted slightly at the end of the semester to account for shortcomings in my effort to relay concepts to you. The adjustments made to the grading scale will only help you get a better grade. The percentages in the following chart show the grade that is guaranteed (i.e., if you get a 95.0% you will not get a grade less than an A).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 - 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>91 - 94.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 90.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82 - 84.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 - 81.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76 - 79.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72 - 75.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>68 - 71.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Participation

Throughout the semester, class participation will be noted. At the end of the semester this will be used to help students who are on the border between grades. For example, if your score is on the border between a B and a B+ and if you participated in class then you will receive a B+. By contrast, if your score is on the same border and you have not participated in class then you will receive a B. In past semesters, this participation credit has typically been around 0.5%; between three and four students in a class of 60 will benefit from participation credit.

To receive class participation, you must actively participate in class (answer questions, show an example on the board, etc.), or make a substantial contribution to the course (correct several webpage errors, suggest a major improvement to a lab, help me learn something new, etc.).

Reading and Quizzes

The two go hand in hand. If it is clear that reading is not happening, quizzes will be given and the grade weighting will be suitably adjusted. I hate giving quizzes, so please don’t make me do it. The reading for this class is extremely useful and informative. The book that you have spent good money on is actually a very good book and will help you understand the concepts.

That said, I do not expect your reading to be in-depth. I do expect you to read before the associated class period, but that reading should not be an attempt to memorize or completely understand everything. Get the broad strokes. Get an initial exposure to the material. Don’t worry if you don’t get everything the first time. Bring those questions to class. You may find yourself re-reading some sections after call and as you do the homework and labs.
Online Grades

Your grades are available online from blackboard. We will do our best to get things recorded correctly, but if something is not correct please point it out to us as quickly as possible (while things are still fresh on our minds).

Dress and Grooming, Harassment, and the Honor Code

We will follow all university and department policies, including, but not limited to, the following:

Dress and Grooming

Besides being part of the Honor Code, which every one of you has agreed to abide by, it is a matter of great personal import to me that you obey the dress and grooming standards. I expect the men in the class to be clean shaven unless officially exempted. I expect the ladies in the class to dress modestly. If these expectations are not fulfilled, I will take the offender aside privately and indicate that more is expected. If that individual offends a second time, it will be brought up in the public setting of class and the individual will be asked to leave until he or she is in full compliance.

The Honor Code is a serious matter and will not be taken lightly in class. Too many abuses are readily seen around campus, and this is the right place for those to be curbed. Do not be one of the offenders. Respect the rights of others to attend school where they need not be exposed to immodesty and inappropriate grooming and dress.

Harassment

The following is BYU’s statement on preventing sexual harassment.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity receiving federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student sexual harassment. BYU’s policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the university but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895 or 367-5689 (24 hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 378-2847.

Computer Abuse

Quoted from the CS department computer policies:

Accounts on Computer Science Department computers are privileges to be used in conjunction with and in support of various related Computer Science classes. Abuse in any form will result in immediate suspension of your account(s). If an abuse involves a violation of the honor code, you will be referred to University Standards. If an abuse involves illegal activity, appropriate authorities will be notified. In either case, you will be immediately dropped from all Computer Science Classes you are enrolled in. Some violations are punishable by expulsion from the University. Your keystrokes may be monitored and saved. Examples of abuse of your account include:

- Transfer or storage of pornographic or illegally duplicated material.
- Use of your account to probe or crack security systems, including passwords, or to intercept information intended only for others.
- Sending mass, commercial, obscene, or harassing email or usenet news posts.
• Sharing your account or account password with anyone.
• Misusing your lab privileges, including game playing, and especially actions which could cause damage, such as rebooting a workstation.

Disabilities
The following is BYU’s statement on students with disabilities.

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonable accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability, which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (378-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SSD Office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895, D-282 ASB.