

CPSC 311 First Day Administrative Notes

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September 4, 2019

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1 Website

The course website <https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-311/> has the syllabus, links to the homework assignments, and other useful content. It also links to all other resources you'll need, like Piazza.

2 Piazza

You are required to sign up for and regularly (at least once every business day) check our Piazza site <https://piazza.com/ubc.ca/winterterm12019/cpsc311/>. We don't require you to read everything there, but we do require you to read all announcements (which appear in Q&A and also on the right side of the "Resources" page).

Note: Piazza stores data on US servers. If you are concerned about that, use your CWL-based @students.cs.ubc.ca e-mail address, following the instructions in getacct and do not include your name or other identifying information when you sign up.

3 Programming Assignments

Programming assignments will be due every ± 2 weeks, typically on Sundays at 10PM. All will be marked partially via automated testing and partially subject to review by the course staff.

Each programming assignment may also include some more conceptual questions related to the assignment.

Your first assignment will be posted soon on the course website under "assignments". It is to be completed *individually* subject to the very liberal collaboration policy described in the syllabus, **which you must read!!!**.

For later programming assignments, we plan to allow **and encourage** working in pairs.

We will also have a term project towards the end of the course done in groups of 4-5, graded via a combination of report, demo, and poster session.

We will evaluate the size of the groups after the course registration after the end of the Drop without W deadline.

4 Conceptual portion of Assignments

Conceptual questions will be due in sync with programming assignments. Conceptual questions will be marked by the staff, but we may choose to mark only a subset of the questions.

5 Reading: *Do It*

I will assume you have done the reading for lecture (and any associated quiz). If you have not, trust me, lecture will be furiously fast and terribly confusing. See the website

for the advance reading for a given day.

6 Midterm Exams

We currently plan two in-class midterms: Wed 9 Oct and Wed Nov 6.

We will confirm these in the course syllabus within the first week of classes.

7 Office Hours: Your Time

Office hours are times when your course staff are available to work with you on whatever questions you might have. If there's time, even non-course-related ones.

WARNING: just because you ask doesn't mean we'll answer. Our job is to help you answer your questions, not necessarily to just answer them outright.

When? See the top of the syllabus (mostly currently pending!).

8 Tutorials

The weekly tutorials will sometimes focus on the more theoretical, conceptual issues and other times on hands-on sessions. Both will be aimed at helping you succeed on upcoming assignments or exams.

Towards the end of the term, tutorial will be project work and meeting times, sometimes meeting with the TA who is your project shepherd.