CSCE 3110 - Data Structures and Algorithms

Course Information & Syllabus (Fall 2021)


Basic Course Information

- **Instructor:** Dr. Heng Fan
- **E-mail:** heng.fan@unt.edu
- **Office:** Discovery Park F284
- **Phone:** 940-565-3209
- **Office Hours:** Thursday 3:30 – 5:30 pm (in office or online) or by appointment
- **Lecture Time:** Fall 2021: Tuesday/Thursday 1:00 - 2:20 pm
- **Classroom:** NTDP B142

- **TA:** Shiva Ebrahimi
  - E-mail: ShivaEbrahimi@my.unt.edu
  - Office: F296
  - Office hours: Wednesday/Friday 2:45 - 3:45 pm

Recommended Textbooks

- **Data Structures & Algorithm Analysis in C++ (4th edition),** by Mark Allen Weiss
- **Introduction to Algorithms,** by Thomas H. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, and Clifford Stein

Prerequisites

**CSCE 2100** and **CSCE 2110** or equivalent. You need to know how to write C++ program and compile on your own, and basic knowledge of elementary data structures.

Course Description

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the design and analysis of fundamental data structures and algorithms. The lectures will emphasize the theoretical aspects, while the homework assignments will focus more on the programming and hands-on experience, meant to reinforce the theoretical aspects covered in lectures. Topics include:

- Time and space analysis
- Recursion and recurrence relations
- Review of basic data structures, including arrays, lists, stacks, queues, etc.
- Tree-based data structures, including heaps, BSTs, AVL trees
• Hashing
• Data structures for storing graphs, elementary graph algorithms and their applications
• Algorithms for solving minimum spanning tree problem and their implementations

ABET Outcomes

After completing the course satisfactorily, a student is expected to:

• Understand time complexity of algorithms
• Be able to solve recurrence relations
• Understand and be able to analyze the performance of data structures for searching, including balanced trees, hash tables, and priority queues
• Apply graphs in the context of data structures, including different representations, and analyze the usage of different data structures in the implementation of elementary graph algorithms including depth-first search, breadth-first search, topological ordering, Prim’s algorithm, and Kruskal’s algorithm.
• Be able to code the above-listed algorithms

Grading

• Quizzes: 20%
• Assignments: 40%
• Midterm exam (closed book): 15%
• Final exam (closed book): 20%
• Attendance: 5%
• Course project (optional): 10% (Bonus)

Quizzes: There will be 5 or 6 in-class quizzes. Each quiz may contain 3-4 questions. There will NOT be any makeup quizzes.

Assignments: There will be five or six homework assignments (mixed with written and programming exercises).
  o You are expected to do homework assignments (5 or 6) by yourselves. Even if you discuss them with your classmates, you should turn in your own. Do NOT share your code!
  o Each assignment will specify the material to be turned in. All programming will be in C++ and must compile on a University Unix/Linux machine. No credit will be given for programs that do not compile.
  o Assignments are due before class on the due date. Assignments may be turned in electrically using Canvas. A late penalty of 10% will be applied to all late assignments for up to 3 calendar days. No credit will be given after 3 days.

Midterm and final exams: The mid-term exam will be during class on TBD. The final exam will be on TBD.
**Attendance:** Attendance may be checked on randomly selected days. You are responsible for any missed material and completing all work by the assigned due dates. You should notify the instructor of your absence as soon as possible. Special cases caused by COVID can be found below in “COVID Information”. For each absence over three, a student's final grade will be reduced by 1 percentage point, but no more than 5% accumulated.

**Course project:** The course project is optional, and you should work on your own for the project. It will be a coding task to implement a practical system using appropriate data structures and algorithms. Students may discuss the project, but don’t share the solution and code. Details will be announced in a certain class.

**Grading Scale (based on 100 points)**

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89 = B
- 70-79 = C
- 60-69 = D
- below 60 = F

**UNT Policies**

**Academic Integrity and Consequences:** According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Most lectures in class will have homework assignments. Students may discuss the homework problems and approaches with each other but must work on their solutions individually unless otherwise stated in the assignment. Students must not copy homework from any source, including other students or the internet. No collaboration is allowed in quizzes and exams.

**Acceptable Student Behavior:** Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** We cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students (cf. Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act) with disabilities. If you have not registered with ODA, we encourage
you to do so. If you have a disability for which you require accommodation, please discuss your needs with the instructor or submit a written Accommodation Request on or before the fourth-class day.

COVID Information

**Face Coverings:** UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines. Face covering guidelines could change based on community health conditions.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

**Course Materials for Remote Instruction:** Remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a [webcam and microphone – faculty member to include what other basic equipment is needed] to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Additional required classroom materials for remote learning include: [list specific software, supplies, equipment or system requirements needed for the course]. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at [https://online.unt.edu/learn](https://online.unt.edu/learn).

**Disclaimer**

This syllabus is to serve as a guide and may be subject to changes. Up-to-date information, assignments, and class material can be found in the course space on Canvas. This syllabus may be updated to reflect changes. The updated version will be available in the course space on Canvas.