

CS 321 – Algorithms

Course Syllabus

Term: Fall 2016

Credits: 3

Meets: 12:40 – 1:40 PM MWF in HS 309.

Prerequisites: CS 212 and CS 271, all with a grade of C or better.

Instructor

Instructor: Scott Summers

Email: summerss@uwosh.edu

Phone: 920-424-1324

Office: Halsey 220

Office hours (subject to change):

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
9:10 AM					
10:20					
11:30					
12:40					
1:50	(1:40 – 2:00)		(1:40 – 2:00)		(1:40 – 2:00)
3:00					

(The shaded boxes represent my office hours)

Course Description

Algorithm design techniques including brute-force, backtracking, divide-and-conquer, dynamic programming and greedy algorithms. Other topics include big-O and amortized analysis, recurrence relations in the analysis of recursive algorithms, numerical algorithms, pattern matching, data integrity, authentication, and encryption.

Course Objectives

1. The student will be able to prove the correctness of an algorithm using loop invariants and mathematical induction.
2. Given a recursive algorithm, the student will be able to examine its recursive structure, determine and mathematically solve the corresponding recurrence relation, and infer the asymptotic runtime of the algorithm using big-O notation.
3. The student will be able to use appropriate asymptotic notations for bounding algorithm running times from above and below.
4. Given a data structure with an occasional high-cost operation, the student will be able to select an appropriate potential function and use amortized analysis techniques to determine the amortized cost of the operations on the data structure.

5. The student will be able to identify problems amenable to divide-and-conquer solutions, derive the details of a solution to such a problem, and analyze the run-time behavior of the corresponding solution.
6. Given a problem amenable to a dynamic programming solution, the student will be able to determine the underlying recursion that solves the problem, determine why this recursion is suited to dynamic programming, implement the algorithm using dynamic programming to cache sub-problem solutions, and determine the efficiency of the resulting algorithm.
7. The student will be able to identify problems amenable to greedy solutions, derive the details of a solution to such a problem, and analyze the run-time behavior of the corresponding solution.
8. Given a string, the student will be able to trace the execution of an advanced string search algorithm (such as Knuth-Morris-Pratt, Boyer-Moore, or Rabin-Karp) on this data and compare the efficiency of this algorithm to a more straight-forward version of a string search algorithm.
9. The student will be able to simulate the extended Euclidean algorithm on paper analyze its computational costs.
10. The student will be able to simulate the RSA encryption/decryption algorithm on paper (for data that is reasonable to hand-calculate) and analyze the computational costs of the algorithm when the data scales to what is used in actual practice.

Course Website

The course website is: <http://www.uwosh.edu/d2l>. You should check d2l on a regular basis, perhaps two or three times per day.

Required Textbook

Introduction to Algorithms 3rd edition by Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest and Stein. ISBN 9780262033848.

Course Grade

Your final course grade will be based on the following components.

45% HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments must be written in LaTeX and the corresponding source files must be submitted electronically via d2l. It is your responsibility to ensure your submission was submitted correctly. Each assignment must be submitted by the due date (no late submissions will be accepted). All assignments will be weighted equally. You may work with a partner on homework assignments.

10% QUIZZES

You will be given at least one quiz potentially every week. However, during weeks in which an exam is given, there will be no quizzes. Quizzes will be taken at the end of class. Each quiz is equally-weighted. Calculators will not be allowed for any of the quizzes. Quiz material will come from the lecture notes, textbook and assignments.

45% EXAMS

There will be three, equally-weighted, in-class exams. Calculators will not be allowed for any of the exams. Exam material will come from the lecture notes, quizzes, textbook and assignments. There will be more information about each exam as it approaches.

Grading Scale

Grading will be on a plus/minus system. Grading *may* be done on a curve depending on the overall performance of the class. If no curve is used, then your grade will be computed based on the following:

Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade
>91	A	>79 and ≤ 81	B-	>67 and ≤ 69	D+
>89 and ≤ 91	A-	>77 and ≤ 79	C+	>61 and ≤ 67	D
>87 and ≤ 89	B+	>71 and ≤ 77	C	>55 and ≤ 61	D-
>81 and ≤ 87	B	>69 and ≤ 71	C-	≤55	F

If you believe anything was graded incorrectly or unfairly and would like to have it re-graded, you must let me know about it in writing within one week of having the item graded. I will re-grade the entire assignment, exam or quiz and you may gain or lose points.

Late Work Policy

Late work will NOT be accepted. Late work is worth 0 points. Extensions may be granted at the discretion of the instructor if you provide a valid justification (in the form of a written excuse from a medical doctor or the Dean of Students Office) before the due date.

University Policy on Academic Integrity

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh is committed to a standard of academic integrity for all students. The system guidelines state: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of source, and for respect of others' academic endeavors" (UWS 14.01, Wisconsin Administrative Code).

Often, students are not aware of the ways to identify and avoid plagiarism. Therefore, it is important to educate yourself about how to give proper credit to sources that you use in your assignments. For writing assignments, you can consult the Purdue Owl website on how to identify and avoid plagiarism: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/02/> and <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/03/>. This website outlines the strategies for avoiding plagiarism in this course. However, other courses may demand knowing other ways to identify and avoid plagiarism. Therefore, I encourage you to consult with me if it is unclear to you how you give proper credit to your sources of information.

In sum, all material turned in for this course must be original. In this course, you may not re-use papers or projects from other sections of this course, from other courses you have completed, or other courses you are currently completing. This class is a specific event in your learning process. To learn, you must engage in the material and complete the work. Thus, work from other experiences is not acceptable. All work turned in that is plagiarized will receive a "0" in the course.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities: Course Policies

WELCOME STUDENTS!

As a University of Wisconsin Oshkosh student, you have rights and responsibilities regarding your relationship with both the classroom and university community. The policies in the course specifically as well as at UW Oshkosh generally are in place to foster an equitable and safe classroom and campus climate. The primary goal of all policies is to create a classroom and campus community in which all students can access learning, achieve success and reach their goals. Your rights and responsibilities are important to know both so that you can enhance your learning experience and contribute positively to the campus climate. Specific policies and procedures can be accessed through the Student Affairs Policies and Procedures webpage (<https://www.uwosh.edu/stuaff/policies-procedures>).

INCLUSION STATEMENT

Building relationships and community is one of the most important goals of the course. The only way to build community in this course is to honor each person in terms of their identity. Each student in the course will conceive of their identity in different ways; aspects of identity important to students in the course may include race, ethnicity, ability, sex, sexuality, gender, gender expression, gender identity, religious beliefs, political affiliations, and/or class. Thus, each of us, myself included, must honor each students' identity in all its complexity. We need to work on taking up perspectives unlike our own, challenging our assumptions and finding a route toward understanding the similarities and differences between ourselves and others.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Most importantly, students with disabilities are welcome in this course! If you need alternative/additional instructional structure for this class due to specific individual learning needs, please talk to me and we can work together. I am committed to creating an environment conducive to learning for all students.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON TYPES OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

There are several forms of absences that are excused under University policy: "Students are excused from class for participation in all-University events [GEN 4.B.10 (1)(b)] and for circumstances beyond the students' control including, but not limited to medical or family emergencies (medical care for pregnancy, illness, child care issues, death or serious health problem of family member), court appearance, required military service not to exceed two (2) weeks unless special permission is granted by the instructor or chair, jury duty, etc." Student responsibility: "Students are responsible for notifying the instructor. . . as far in advance as possible and may not be penalized for such absences as long as appropriate documentation is provided in a timely fashion to the instructor to verify the reason for the absence." Instructor responsibility: "Instructors are responsible for providing reasonable accommodation or opportunities to make up course obligations that have an impact on the course grade."

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS

Both University policy and state policy requires that instructors honor students sincerely held religious and faith traditions by making accommodations for religious holidays or other days of special religious significance. If there is a scheduling conflict for you between attending a course session and/or completing coursework on a day of religious observance, then, it is necessary to "notify the instructor within the first three weeks of the beginning of classes. . . of the specific days or dates on which you will request relief from an examination or academic requirement."

CREATING A SPACE FREE FROM SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The University policy on sexual harassment is very clear: it will not be tolerated anywhere on campus, including the classroom. Sexual harassment is defined by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh as follows: "Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. It [is]. . . the inappropriate introduction of sexual activities or comments into the work, learning, or living situation. . . Such behavior is not acceptable at the UW Oshkosh and will result in disciplinary action."

ATTENDANCE

I am dedicated to your success and know that attendance is crucial to achieving improvement in your skills and abilities and, thus, your success in the course. Therefore, I may keep track of attendance weekly. Missing two weeks or more of the course will result in a failing final course grade (missing two consecutive weeks or more means missing two consecutive weeks or more of participation points). In turn, if I receive no communication from you for two weeks, I reserve the right to withdraw you from the course.

If you experience difficulties such as illness or death in the family or other significant disruptions in your life as discussed in the section on excused absences above, then, please communicate with me about your situation and we will forge a plan on how to best catch you up in the course.

DROPBOX

Odd things happen in cyberspace-emails get lost, servers disconnect temporarily, and logins fail. Due to this challenge, you should anticipate possible mishaps and complete your work with enough time to meet the deadline. In turn, timely communication aids success: reply to emails received and check for replies to your sent emails. With these strategies, you will be able to meet my expectations of getting work in on time.

Policy on Electronic Cigarettes

The use of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) of any kind within the classroom is strictly prohibited.