Course Outline Public

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Course Details

Course Code	COMP9024
Course Title	Data Structures and Algorithms
Convenor	Hui Wu (http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~huiw)
Lectures	Tue 18-20 (w1-10, CLB 7); Thu 18-20 (w1-9, w11 AinswthG03) (https://studentvip.com.au/unsw/kensington/maps/94723)
Consultations	Friday 2:00pm - 5:00pm, K17-501D
Units of Credit	6
Course Website	http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs9024 (http://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs9024)
Handbook Entry	http://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/postgraduate/courses/current/COMP9024.html (http://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/postgraduate/courses/current/COMP9024.html)

Course Summary

Data structures are about how data is stored inside a computer for effective and efficient use. An algorithm is a step-by-step process for solving a problem within a finite amount of space and time. Data structures and algorithms are not only important in software design, but also in hardware design. Being proficient in data structures and algorithms are essential for good software developers, hardware developers, and system architects.

The actual content is taken from a list of subjects that constitute the basis of the tool box of every serious practitioner of computing: data types and data structures, abstract data types, dynamic data structures, analysis of algorithms and a variety of fundamental algorithms for graphs, trees and text processing.

Assumed Knowledge

Before commencing this course, students should

- be able to design, implement and test programs written in a procedural language;
- know how to represent data with linked lists, stacks, queues, heaps and binary trees;
- be able to implement sorting algorithms.

These are assumed to have been acquired in the course COMP9021.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course, students will know fundamental data structures and algorithms, and they will be able to reason about their applicability, effectiveness and efficiency.

This course contributes to the development of the following graduate capabilities:

Graduate Capability	**Acquired in**
scholarship: understanding of their discipline in its interdisciplinary context	lectures
scholarship: capable of independent and collaborative enquiry	problem sets, assignments, in-class quizzes
scholarship: rigorous in their analysis, critique, and reflection	in-class exercises, problem sets, assignments
scholarship: able to apply their knowledge and skills to solving problems	problem sets and assignments
scholarship: capable of effective communication	forum
scholarship: information literate	lectures, problem sets, assignments
scholarship: digitally literate	lectures, problem sets, assignments
professionalism: capable of independent, self-directed practice	problem sets and assignments
professionalism: capable of operating within an agreed Code of Practice	all course-work, by doing it yourself
global citizens: culturally aware and capable of respecting diversity and acting in socially just/responsible ways	interaction with your fellow students

Teaching Strategies

- **Lectures** introduce concepts, data structures, algorithms and their time complexities
- **Problem sets** reinforce concepts, data structures and algorithms, and provide additional problems for students to solve
- **Assignments** further reinforce concepts and allow students to solve larger problems

Teaching Rationale

Lectures will include exercises where we examine the practice of formulating and proving mathematical properties of relevance to Computer Science. Problem sets aim to deepen analysis and understanding via additional examples and problems. Assignments give you the chance to practise what you have learnt on larger problems.

Student Conduct

The **Student Code of Conduct** (Information (https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct) , Policy (https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentcodepolicy.pdf)) sets out what the University expects from students as members of the UNSW community. As well as the learning, teaching and research environment, the University aims to provide an environment that enables students to achieve their full potential and to provide an experience consistent with the University's values and guiding principles. A condition of enrolment is that students *inform themselves* of the University's rules and policies affecting them, and conduct themselves accordingly.

In particular, students have the responsibility to observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the University community. This applies to all activities on UNSW premises and all external activities related to study and research. This includes behaviour in person as well as behaviour on social media, for example Facebook groups set up for the purpose of discussing UNSW courses or course work. Behaviour that is considered in breach of the Student Code Policy as discriminatory, sexually inappropriate, bullying, harassing, invading another one's privacy or causing any person to fear for their personal safety is serious misconduct and can lead to severe penalties, including suspension or exclusion from UNSW.

If you have any concerns, you may raise them with your lecturer, or approach the School Ethics Officer (mailto:ethics-officer@cse.unsw.edu.au) , Grievance Officer (mailto:grievance-officer@cse.unsw.edu.au) , or one of the student representatives.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as (https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism) using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. UNSW and CSE treat plagiarism as academic misconduct, which means that it carries penalties as severe as being excluded from further study at UNSW. There are several on-line sources to help you understand what plagiarism is and how it is dealt with at UNSW:

- Plagiarism and Academic Integrity (https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism)
- UNSW Plagiarism Policy Statement (https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/plagiarismpolicy.pdf)
- UNSW Plagiarism Procedure (https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/plagiarismprocedure.pdf)
- Student Misconduct Procedure (https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf)

Make sure that you read and understand these. Ignorance is not accepted as an excuse for plagiarism. In particular, you are also responsible that your assignment files are not accessible by anyone but you by setting the correct permissions in your CSE directory and code repository, if using. Note also that plagiarism includes paying or asking another person to do a piece of work for you and then submitting it as your own work.

You should also read the following page which describes your rights and responsibilities in the CSE context:

- Essential Advice for CSE Students (https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/computer-science-engineering/about-us/organisational-structure/student-services/policies/essential-advice-for-cse-students)

Assessment

Component	Maximum Mark

Assignment 1 (due in week 4)	10
Assignment 2 (due in week 6)	10
Assignment 3(due in week 8)	10
Assignment 4 (due in week 10)	10
Final Exam (exam period)	60

Your final overall mark will be the sum of your marks for each component provided that you pass the final exam.

To pass the course, the sum of your marks must be 50 or higher **and** the mark for the final exam must be 25 or higher. Students who do not meet these requirements but achieve an overall score ≥45 can sit the supplementary exam, in which they have to achieve a score ≥50% to pass with a final mark of 50.

Course Schedule

Elementary data structures and algorithms in C	Week 1
Abstract data types and dynamic data structures	Week 2
Analysis of algorithms and tree algorithms	Week 3
Search trees	Week 4
Priority queues, disjoint set union-find data structures	Week 5
Text processing algorithms	Weeks 6
Graph algorithms	Weeks 7-8
Randomised algorithms	Week 9

Resources for Students

The recommended textbooks associated with this course are

- Robert Sedgewick, *Algorithms in C, Parts 1–4* 3rd edition, Addison Wesley, 1998.
- Robert Sedgewick, *Algorithms in C, Part 5* 3rd edition, Addison Wesley, 2002.

The following introduction to the C programming language is recommended as a supplementary textbook:

- Alistair Moffat, *Programming, Problem Solving, and Abstraction with C* 5th edition, Pearson, 2003.

Course Evaluation and Development

This course is being continuously improved and we will conduct a survey through UNSW's myExperience process at the end of session to obtain feedback on the quality of the various course components. Your participation in the survey will be greatly appreciated. Students are also encouraged to provide informal feedback during the session, and to notify the lecturer-in-charge of any problems as soon as they arise. Student feedback from the last offering in 17s2 indicated that students were very satisfied with the course, but suggested to incorporate additional videos to explain some algorithms further. We will endeavour to achieve this in this offering.

Resource created about a year ago (Friday 15 February 2019, 01:17:44 PM), last modified about a year ago (Monday 18 February 2019, 06:31:06 PM).

Comments

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Dilanka Fernando (/users/z5147283) 12 months ago (Wed Apr 10 2019 15:36:00 GMT+1000 (Australian Eastern Standard Time))

Hi Professor Hui,

Is there a date decided for final exam?

Edit Delete



Hui Wu (/users/z3117461) 12 months ago (Wed Apr 10 2019 20:08:02 GMT+1000 (Australian Eastern Standard Time))

Hi Mihindukulasuriya Fernando,

Check myunsw.

Cheers,

Hui

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