



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course:** CPSC 203: Introduction to Problem Solving and Application Software

Lecture Sections:

L01, TR 12:30-13:45, EEEL 161, James Tam, ICT 707, 210-9455, tamj@cpsc.ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: T 14:00-14:50 R 16:45-17:15

Course Website: <http://pages.cpsc.ucalgary.ca/~tamj/2016/203F/>

Computer Science Department Office, ICT 602, 220-6015, cpsc@cpsc.ucalgary.ca

2. **Prerequisites:** None.

(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/computer-science.html#3620>)

3. **Grading:** The University policy on grading and related matters is described in sections F.1 and F.2 of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Assignments	40%
Midterm Exam	25%
<i>(Thursday October 20th, 2016 at 18:00 in ICT 102)</i>	
Final Exam	35%

This course **will** have a Registrar's Scheduled Final Exam.

Special Regulations affecting Final grade: Each course component will be computed using a grade point. However incremental grades may be awarded, on individual components, which go up in increments of 0.1 starting at a grade point of 1.0 e.g., 1.1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3...4.0. The term grade will be calculated by summing the following: each component grade multiplied by the weight for each component and then reconverted to a final letter grade using the Official University Grade Point equivalents.

If a student is awarded a higher grade point (not a raw score and not a percentage) on the final exam than the midterm, then the final exam grade point will be used on both the midterm and final exam components when calculating the term grade point. (An analogous swap will NOT occur if the midterm score is higher than the final exam).

4. **Missed Components of Term Work:** The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar. Section 3.6. It is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with these regulations. See also Section E.6 of the University calendar.
5. **Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:** REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OUT-OF-CLASS-TIME ACTIVITY. If you have a clash with this out-of-class activity, please inform your instructor as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements can be made.
6. **Course Materials:**
Computer Chop Suey! Computer and Software Fundamentals, Practice Problem Solving, James Tam, Wiley (Recommended)
Online eBook – access code available through the U of C Bookstore

Online Course Components:

Lecture slides will be available on the course webpage. These lecture slides are mandatory for the course.

7. **Examination Policy:** Closed book. No additional aids of any kind are permitted. Bring at least one pen and one pencil to the exam. Students should also read the Calendar, Section G, on examinations.
8. **Approved Mandatory and Optional Course Supplemental Fees:** None.
9. **Writing across the Curriculum Statement:** In this course, the quality of the student's writing in the weighted components of the course will be a factor in the evaluation of these components. See also Section E.2 of the University Calendar.
10. **Human Studies Statement:** Students will be expected to participate as subjects or participants in projects. See also Section E.5 of the University Calendar.
11. **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**
 - a) **Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offense that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under Section K, Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties.
 - b) **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on assembly points which can be found in each classroom and building.
 - c) **Student Accommodations:** Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head of Computer Science.
 - d) **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call 403-220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
 - e) **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>
 - f) **Student Union Information:** VP Academic (403) 220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca SU Faculty Rep (403) 220-3913 science1@su.ucalgary.ca, science2@su.ucalgary.ca and science3@su.ucalgary.ca, Student Ombuds Office: (403) 220-6420 ombuds@ucalgary.ca, <http://ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
 - g) **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** You can assume that in all classes that you attend your cell phone should be turned off unless instructed otherwise. All communications with other individuals via laptop computers, cell phones or other devices connectable to the internet in not allowed during class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.
 - h) **U.S.R.I.:** At the University of Calgary feedback provided by students through the Universal Student ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference – please participate in USRI surveys.

Department Approval _____ Date _____

Associate Dean's Approval for out of regular class-time activity: _____ Date: _____

Associate Dean's Approval for Alternate final examination arrangements: _____ Date: _____

A signed copy of this document is kept on file in the Computer Science main Office ICT 602

CPSC 203 Syllabus

Tentative Topics Covered:

- Computer fundamentals
- Logic
- Spreadsheets: analyzing and visualizing information
- Databases: storing and retrieving information
- Web Design
- The Internet
- Computer security and privacy

Learning Outcomes (from the above topics)

- Look at an expression such as a spreadsheet formula, a database query or a computer program and determine the outcome or results derived
- Write or formulate an expression in order to solve a problem that they have not encountered previously (although it may although it may be similar)

Secondary student outcomes (from the above topics)

- Apply logical and other operators employed by a search engine in order to narrow down search results in order to find the needed information
- Understand the computer technical specifications taught in class in order to perform a rudimentary evaluation of a list of specifications that may be include in an actual computer advertisement
- Describe common technical concepts so that students can at least demonstrate a rudimentary level of computer literacy