

# CIS 3200: Introduction to Algorithms (Spring '24)

## General Information

**Instructor:** Erik Waingarten

Office hours: Wed: 5 – 6:30 pm (right after lecture).

Please do not email me. Come talk to me before or after class.

**Head TAs:** Wenxi Chen (chenwx@seas.upenn.edu) and Cynthia Zhang (cynzhang@seas.upenn.edu).

### TA Staff:

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**Textbook:** *Introduction to Algorithms* by Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest, and Stein, third edition.

**Website:** There is a Canvas website, as well as the following website:

<https://www.seas.upenn.edu/~cis3200/current/>. We will use Ed Discussions for online clarifications related to the homeworks and other course material.

## Course Organization

**Homeworks and Independent Homeworks:** There will be 6 regular homeworks, and 6 optional homeworks.

- The homeworks are collaborative assignments due 2 weeks after being released; these will be graded for correctness.
- Optional homeworks are released (on the off weeks) and meant to be done independently. These are *not* graded and are meant to supplement your understanding of the concepts.

Regular homeworks are 24% of the grade (each of the six is 4 points).

**Midterms:** Mid-Term 1 is on October 14 (M), and Mid-Term 2 is on November 18 (M). Each midterm is worth 20% of the grade. **They will be held during the class time.**

**Final:** The final exam will be held in accordance with the schedule decided by the Penn registrar's office. It is worth 36% of the grade. All exams will be **closed-book and closed-notes**.

## Course Policies

- You are allowed (and encouraged) to collaborate on the regular homework assignments. However, **each of you must write up your own solutions independently, and you must not share the writeups of your solutions!** Please write names of all the students with whom you collaborated on each homework writeup.
- **You must typeset the regular homeworks and submit via Gradescope.** We will provide you with Latex template for writing homework solutions.
- **Do not ask for extensions.** You are automatically granted:
  - For any two homeworks, you may submit up to 48 hours late without penalty. **You do not need to ask permission to use this extension.** Just indicate on the first page of your homework that you are using an extension.
  - You will not receive any credit for a homework submitted more than 48 hours after the original due date. We will close the submissions after 48 hours.
  - For every additional homework submitted beyond the two allotted extensions, you will automatically lose 25% of the points.
  - Use extensions wisely. You will not obtain an extension for the end of the semester.
- **No electronic devices (cellphones, laptops, tablets) during the class.** The only exception to this is if you are using a laptop or tablet for note-taking – please make sure that your usage is strictly limited to note-taking.
- **There are no make-up Midterms.** If you have a medical or other emergency which physically prevents you from taking a midterm, you may be eligible for an exception. You must submit a Course Absence Report (CAR), and the subsequent exam (either second Midterm or Final exam) will count as the midterm grade.