I&C SCI 46 Fall 2022 Syllabus and Course Reference

Lectures are held MWF 8:00 - 8:50 AM in EH 1200 (this is the mid-morning lecture) and again MWF 10:00 - 10:50 AM in SSLH 100 (this is the late morning lecture). The plan is for there to be recordings posted on Canvas. It is the instructor's intention to post these as soon as possible, although delays do happen, and some lectures will not lend themselves to this format. It has been the instructor's experience that students who attend live lectures tend to perform better in the class, and attendance is encouraged, but will not be taken at either lecture. The only times you are required to be available during the actual time is for exams, which are conducted **synchronously and in person**. You are responsible for the material covered in the lecture in which you are enrolled, regardless of which you choose to attend on non-exam days. You must attend the exams with the lecture in which you are enrolled. **Students should not assume that a virtual-remote option will be available at any point in the quarter.**

Your instructor will remain available after the lecture most days, primarily outside the classroom or between the two during the 8:50 AM - 10:00 AM time period. Anything discussed after the close of that day's lecture is not considered to have been covered, although students may ask questions about course material during this time, and such questions have priority at that time. *We can also talk about topics that aren't ICS 46, such as future classes, future plans, questions about course planning, life in industry, graduate school, and so on.*

Students with disabilities: Any students who feel that they may need accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Disability Services Center online or by phone at (949) 824-7494 as soon as possible to better ensure that accommodations, such as alternative test-taking environments or note-taking services, can be arranged for you in a timely way.
Course announcements : On occasion, course announcements may be sent via email to all students enrolled in the class either via Canvas or via EdStem. You should adjust email settings accordingly if you do not check these sources regularly. You are considered to be aware of the announcement 24 hours after it has been sent, regardless of whether you read the alert.
Commercial note-taking Students are prohibited from selling (or being paid for taking) notes during this course to or by any person or commercial firm without the express written permission of the professor teaching this course. This includes, but is not limited to, a prohibition for providing notes, handouts, slides, assignment descriptions, or code to websites such as Chegg, Koofers, or CourseHero. Violations of this will be treated as a serious violation of the student code of conduct.

   To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, electronic video and/or audio recording by students is not permitted during classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities unless the student obtains express written permission from the instructor. If permission is granted, any distribution of the recording is prohibited. Students with specific electronic recording accommodations authorized by the Office of Disability Services do not require instructor permission; however, the instructor must be notified of any such accommodation prior to recording. Any distribution of such recordings is prohibited.

You are **required** to have a copy of the Zybook about Data Structures. To get a copy of the book, sign in or create an account at learn.zybooks.com and enter zyBook code UCII&CSCI46ShindlerFall2022. Then click "subscribe." A subscription is $58. The cutoff to subscribe is November 29, 2022. Subscriptions will last until Dec 19, 2022. *Use your @uci email when signing up for your Zybook. Failure to do so may result in difficulty crediting you with your points for the reading and may also result in a penalty.*

Required reading in the Zybook is to be conducted on that platform. Your feedback is provided there as well. Due dates for the Zybook readings are *always* 7:30 AM Irvine time, although if you are accessing the book from a different time zone, it might display as being in your local time. Regardless, completing them on time is **your** responsibility.

I also suggest reading: *Data Structures and Algorithms in C++,* second edition
                                        by Michael T. Goodrich, Roberto Tamassia, David M. Mount
The book is available in hard copy from the usual sources and online at a much cheaper rate.

Grade calculation:
- Six programming assignments   5% each for 30% total
    - Plus a warm-up project (project 0).   Plus 2% one-time
- Six written problem set assignments   2% each for 12% total
- Assigned reading in Zybook   7% total
    - All reading assignments are weighted equally.
- Three mid-quarter exams   11% each, for 33% total
- Final Exam   16%

Before you can have any work graded in this class, you must get a perfect score on the syllabus acknowledgement and agreement[1], sometimes known as a "syllabus quiz." You may take this quiz as many times as you would like, but anything submitted prior to earning 100% on the syllabus quiz will be erased from the gradebook. Furthermore, completing this successfully is required to be added to the system to which non-programming/non-reading assignments are to be submitted and to which all non-reading grades are posted.

It is expected that you be polite in all course related interactions, whether with your instructor, TAs, lab tutors, learning assistants, readers, or classmates. Disruptive behavior related to this course may result in a grade penalty, up to and including reduction to an F in the class, as well as referral to appropriate authorities.

Letter grades will be assigned based on the aforementioned relative weights. We will neither have a straight scale nor a straight curve. It is guaranteed that 90% of the available points in the class will constitute at least an A-, although the cut-line for an A- may be lower than that. Similarly, collecting at least 80% of the available points will be at least a B-, and 70% will be sufficient for at least a C. I will not know the cut-offs until after all artifacts have been graded. Students asking if the class is curved, or what the curve will be, or asking for the instructor to

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[1] The syllabus acknowledgement and agreement is available at
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScOuwjmRNRvGiq8Cs7BXx8pGISFcFt-ROA9CuH3NKjH4htJ9A/viewform

curve the class, will be ineligible for any adjustments to the cut-point that may otherwise benefit their classmates. If you do not know what a curve is, or why you probably don't want to ask for one in most classes, I encourage you to read up on how a curve is different from an adjustment to grade cut points.   It is not guaranteed that both sections will have the same grade cutpoints.

There is an exception to the calculation in the previous paragraph. Students whose grade on programming assignments, collectively, is less than 50% of the available points are ineligible for a passing grade in this class, regardless of other considerations.

The only factor in your grade is demonstrated knowledge in the class, and the only reconsideration requests granted are based on marking error. Requests for a grade bump based on other reasoning, such as scholarship requirements, academic eligibility, or transfer needs, will not be considered. If you need a particular grade in I&C SCI 46, the time to consider that is early in the quarter. There is plenty of opportunity for help, practice, and credit during the quarter. On a related note, there are no opportunities for extra credit.

For information about artifact submissions and grading policies, including grade reconsideration requests, please see the document "Artifact Submission and Grading Policies." That document is incorporated into this syllabus by reference.

Exam Rules: Exams will be held synchronously in class hours. You must take the exam in the section *in which you are enrolled*. The actual time allowed for non-final exams will be 40 minutes of test-taking. For more detailed information about the exam rules, refer to the "In-Person Exam Logistics and Rules" document, which is incorporated into this syllabus by reference. You will be expected to abide by the policies in these documents during your exams.

Exam Seating For students who have a preference for exam seating, such as if you need a desk intended for left- or right-handed students, or if you tend to ask questions during the exam, or if you want to sit in the "facial coverings required" portion of the room (in event of no campus mask mandate), please fill out the following form no later than Wednesday, October 5. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf8-Fs6owI8XqSVVyPCRI4PX4hR-vpErfpl8ZlekvNQVKEEWg/viewform

Academic Honesty Policy: see the common policy document "Academic Honesty Guide" for information about academic honesty in this course. A copy of that document is available on the course Canvas page. That document is incorporated into this syllabus by reference.

What is a 4-unit class?
As a four-unit class, I&C SCI 46 is expected to take 12 hours of student time in a typical week. A typical week will consist of three hours of lecture, an hour or two of reading and preparing for lectures, an *average* of 4-5 hours per week on programming projects, and some time spent on problem sets or reviewing material for exams. While most students will probably spend more time during exam weeks (and less in non-exam weeks), I recommend that you study on a regular basis. The material in this class is better learned that way; students often have difficulty "cramming" for exams in this course. There is a similar warning for problem sets and projects: start them when they are assigned, not the night before they are due.

Getting help in this class.

The lab tutors, LAs, and TAs will also regularly hold live help sessions. *These are a great time to ask questions about lecture material, the associated reading, and programming assignments.*

Students who wish to contact course staff asynchronously should do so in a manner best suited to their question. Unless otherwise announced, the EdStem forum should be preferred. A question specific to your situation should be private, while a question of general interest should be public. It is expected that you treat your classmates and course staff respectfully when engaging with them. Abuse of the message board system may result in a revoking of privileges or referral to appropriate authorities. *You may post anonymously on EdStem if you wish. You are anonymous only to your classmates; instructional staff may still see who you are.*

If your question is of general interest, or might be answerable by anyone in the class, post the question on EdStem with a privacy setting that allows your classmates to answer. For example, if you are not sure when an artifact is due, or you have a question about a topic that came up in lecture, then that question fits into this category. Do not post your solution, in part or in whole, to something you need to submit for credit in any manner that classmates may see. *Course Staff are instructed not to answer questions in this category unless the privacy setting is correct. For example, if you make a private post asking when project 2 is due, it may be ignored.*

If your question can be answered by any member of course staff, but is not for viewing by your fellow students, post it on EdStem with a privacy setting to instructors only. For example, if you have a bug in your code that you cannot resolve, and you are having trouble finding the time to get to office hours, this would be a great option. Be sure to include relevant details, such as the block of code that is not working, the error message, and what you have tried to do to fix it.

If you need to reach your instructor specifically, use email. Your instructor is Michael Shindler, reachable by email at **mikes** at **ics** dot **uci** dot **edu**. Emails sent for course related purposes must be sent *to this address*, must come from your UCI (or ICS) email address, include your full name and ID number in the *body* of the email, and have a *meaningful subject line* that begins with the substring "I&C SCI 46" -- **due to your instructor's large volume of emails, any that do not conform to this will probably not be read and do not count as having been sent for purposes of the course.** Emails that should have been a wider-reaching EdStem post will get, at most, a reply indicating such. *If your instructor ever tells you to email him, be sure to follow this requirement.* Please do not use Canvas to send messages in any form. There is a very good chance that they won't even be read. Please remember that email is an asynchronous method of communication, and response times will likely reflect this.

Lab Hours:
While there are no scheduled lab sections in this course, we will be offering informal lab meetings on a selection of days and times throughout the week. During these times, some combination of the instructor, LAs, TAs and lab tutors will be available to help you as you work through your projects. C++ requires an attention to detail that is uncharacteristically high, even for programming, so it will be handy to have a place you can go to get help; keep this on your calendar. You're free to come and go as you'd like within that time; there are no "sections" or other formal arrangements, and you do not need an appointment to attend.

Lab meetings are not a required part of the course, and nothing will be graded in the labs this quarter, but attendance does offer some significant benefits:
- You will have a chance to consult a member of course staff regarding your work; this kind of instant feedback and help can be invaluable as you work through your projects.
- You will be surrounded by a large group of other people facing the same problems that you're facing. This kind of shared journey will build a social network that will last you, in some cases, for the rest of your life. Don't squander that opportunity!

Projected Schedule
There is a projected schedule document posted. Students should read that document to make themselves aware of when homework and programming assignments are due and when exams are scheduled to happen. That projected schedule is incorporated into the syllabus by reference.

About this Document
This document is made primarily to communicate to students the plans for the quarter, as are the documents incorporated by reference. If any policies in this become untenable, they may be changed. However, I promise my priority in such matters is to do right for you. Students should assume all policies are in effect unless told otherwise by the professor. It is the instructor's intent to provide maximum flexibility while maintaining the educational environment. I believe the flexibility I provide will be sufficient for most students; if your situation is such that more flexibility will better enable you to be successful with your goals for the quarter, please get in touch with the instructor as soon as you can. Information for how to contact appears earlier in this document.

Professor David Kay has the following language in his syllabus and I am using it here, too:
We're required to say that in unusual circumstances, these criteria could change. We won't make changes arbitrarily, but the world has had a lot of special circumstances lately and we'd like everyone to try to be flexible, rolling as best we can with the punches that come our way.