SYLLABUS: Models of Computation
CS 291, Section 1 – Online Instruction
Spring 2021

Instructor: Dr. Alan Garvey
Office: VH 2166
Phone: x7600 (but please don’t leave voicemail)
E-Mail: agarvey@truman.edu (in general I will respond within 24 hours, often much more quickly, perhaps as much as 48 hour response times on weekends, sometimes.)
Website: Generally, course information is available on the class webpage on my web server at: http://vh216602.truman.edu/agarvey Additional course information including the gradebook is available on Blackboard.

Virtual Office Hours: MF 8-11am, W 8-10:30am, Tu 9-10am (email for immediate response or to ask for an immediate Zoom), and, if necessary, in person by appointment. (Email me with dates and times you are available to arrange an appointment, preferably during regular office hour times.) The Zoom link will be emailed to you for Office Hour meetings.

Please review important support instructions for online learners available at online.truman.edu. This site will provide you with the most up-to-date information on important University resources and where to access them.

WELCOME

I’m glad you are taking this course. I think this course works fairly well as a blended, partially online course. You will attend class in person roughly once a week and otherwise attend class virtually. Exams will all be virtual, as will office hours.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCE INFORMATION

Required Reading Material (Books for Purchase)


Required Reading Material (Accessible Articles or Chapters Online – Not for Purchase)

A Prolog Lab book from Hein available as a pdf at: PrologLabBook09.pdf

Bookstore Website: https://www.bkstr.com/trumanstatestore/home

Truman Library Website: http://library.truman.edu/

PREREQUISITES, MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY, AND SKILL REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites

Successful completion of CS 191 (or, by substitution MATH 200) with a grade of C or higher, and completion of MATH 198 with a grade of D or higher.

Minimum Technology Requirements

To successfully participate in this course, you need:

- Reliable broadband internet connection (Cable modem, DSL, or satellite)
- Relatively new operating system so that you can get technical support if needed (Windows 7 or newer, Mac OSX, etc.)
• Internet browser compatible with Blackboard, such as Firefox or Chrome or Safari. See Blackboard’s help page for more details.
• Computer with speakers for listening to videos, microphone, and camera

Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in the course, you need to be able to:
• Access the internet and navigate websites using a web browser
• Use word processing to complete written assignments
• Navigate Blackboard and use it to submit assignments
• Be comfortable using Zoom for synchronous class work and office hours
• Be comfortable using your computer microphone, speakers, and video camera.
• Send and receive email, and check your email at least once daily.
• Access the library and other online resources when off campus by using a VPN or view.truman.edu.
• Access the Department Linux server (ice.truman.edu) and navigate your way through the Linux environment, if you choose to use this server.

Technical Expectations for Completing Assignments and Exams

The exams for this course will be synchronously-timed, open book, written tests, made available and submitted using email. To complete assignments you need to be able to navigate the class web site and prepare documents using LaTeX. Assignments will be made available through the class web site and submitted using the Assignment Submission form on the vh216602 server. If you have a problem submitting an assignment you should email me an attachment of your work, but this should only be used if the Assignment Submission form fails.

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Introduction to the Course

This course is a continuation of CS 191 Computing Structures and it covers most of the remainder of the textbook from that class. Major topics include logic in various forms, grammars, automata theory, and computability theory. Another way of thinking about it is that we are continuing to look at the topic of discrete mathematics from a computer science perspective.

Course Description


Course Objectives

Learning Outcomes for Models of Computation (organized by textbook chapters)

Ch. 6. Elementary Logic

Convert logical statements from informal language to propositional logic expressions. [Usage][DS/Basic Logic]
Apply formal methods of symbolic propositional logic, such as calculating validity of formulae and computing normal forms. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]

Use the rules of inference to construct proofs in propositional logic. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]

Identify the proof technique used in a given proof. [Familiarity] [DS/Proof Techniques]

Outline the basic structure of each proof technique (direct proof, proof by contradiction, and induction) described in this unit. [Usage] [DS/Proof Techniques]

Apply each of the proof techniques (direct proof, proof by contradiction, and induction) correctly in the construction of a sound argument. [Usage] [DS/Proof Techniques]

Determine which type of proof is best for a given problem. [Assessment] [DS/Proof Techniques]

**Ch. 7. Predicate Logic**

Convert logical statements from informal language to predicate logic expressions. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]

Apply formal methods of symbolic predicate logic, such as calculating validity of formulae and computing normal forms. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]

Use the rules of inference to construct proofs in predicate logic. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]

Describe the strengths and limitations of propositional and predicate logic. [Familiarity] [DS/Basic Logic]

**Ch. 8. Applied Logic**

Describe how symbolic logic can be used to model real-life situations or applications, including those arising in computing contexts such as software analysis (e.g., program correctness), database queries, and algorithms. [Usage] [DS/Basic Logic]
Translate a natural language (e.g., English) sentence into predicate logic statement. [Usage] [IS/Basic Knowledge Representation and Reasoning]

Convert a logic statement into clause form. [Usage] [IS/Basic Knowledge Representation and Reasoning]

Apply resolution to a set of logic statements to answer a query. [Usage] [IS/Basic Knowledge Representation and Reasoning]

Ch. 11. Languages and Automata

Discuss the concept of finite state machines. [Familiarity] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Design a deterministic finite state machine to accept a specified language. [Usage] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Generate a regular expression to represent a specified language. [Usage] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Design a context-free grammar to represent a specified language. [Usage] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Convert among equivalently powerful notations for a language, including among DFAs, NFAs, and regular expressions, and between PDAs and CFGs. [Usage] [AL/Advanced Automata Theory and Computability]

Explain how Prolog implementations of finite automata work. [Familiarity]

Ch. 12. Computational Notions

Explain why the halting problem has no algorithmic solution. [Familiarity] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Define the classes P and NP. [Familiarity] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]
Explain the significance of NP-completeness. [Familiarity] [AL/Basic Automata Computability and Complexity]

Explain the Church-Turing thesis and its significance. [Familiarity] [AL/Advanced Automata Theory and Computability]

**Availability of Course Content**

Course content will be available on a combination of Blackboard and the class website (vh216602.truman.edu/agarvey)

**Proctoring**

Exams will be open book, with the understanding that students will work on them individually, not consulting with other people.

**Credit Hour Justification:**

The minimum investment of time by the average Truman student necessary to achieve the learning goals in this course are not less than one hour (50 minutes) of classroom instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week per credit hour awarded. This average time per week for an average student may have weekly variations.

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Emergency Procedures**

In each classroom on campus, there is a poster of emergency procedures explaining best practices in the event of an active shooter/hostile intruder, fire, severe weather, bomb threat, power outage, and medical emergency. This poster is also available as a PDF at this link: [http://police.truman.edu/files/2015/12/Emergency-Procedures.pdf](http://police.truman.edu/files/2015/12/Emergency-Procedures.pdf).

Students should be aware of the classroom environment and note the exits for the room and building. For more detailed information about emergency procedures, please consult the Emergency Guide for Academic Buildings, available at the QR code shown or at the following link: [http://police.truman.edu/emergency-procedures/academic-buildings/](http://police.truman.edu/emergency-procedures/academic-buildings/).

This six-minute video provides some basic information on how to react in the event there is an active shooter in your location: [http://police.truman.edu/emergency-procedures/active-shooter/active-shooter-preparedness-video/](http://police.truman.edu/emergency-procedures/active-shooter/active-shooter-preparedness-video/).

Truman students, faculty, and staff can sign up for the TruAlert emergency text messaging service via TruView. TruAlert sends a text message to all enrolled cell phones in the event of an emergency at the University. To register, sign in to TruView and click on the “Truman” tab. Click on the registration link in the lower right of the page under the “Update and View My Personal Information” channel on the “Update Emergency Text Messaging Information” link. During a campus emergency, information will also be posted on the TruAlert website [http://trualert.truman.edu/](http://trualert.truman.edu/).

**Discrimination and Title IX**

Truman State University, in compliance with applicable laws and recognizing its deeper commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion which enhances accessibility and promotes excellence in all aspects of the Truman Experience, does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, or
protected veteran status in its programs and activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities. Faculty and staff are considered “mandated reporters” and therefore are required to report potential violations of the University’s Anti-Discrimination Policies to the Institutional Compliance Officer.

Title IX prohibits sex harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking and retaliation. Truman State University encourages individuals who believe they may have been impacted by sexual or gender-based discrimination to consult with the Title IX Coordinator who is available to speak in depth about the resources and options. Faculty and staff are considered “mandated reporters” and therefore are required to report potential incidents of sexual misconduct that they become aware of to the Title IX Coordinator.

For more information on discrimination or Title IX, or to file a complaint contact:

Dr. Lauri Millot, Institutional Compliance Officer, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator

Office of Institutional Compliance
Violette Hall, Room 1308
100 E. Normal Ave
Kirksville, MO 63501
Phone: (660) 785-4354
titleix@truman.edu


IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Various offices that provide services to online students are identified at the One Stop Services page on online.truman.edu. Should you need to consult with administrators that oversee this department and course, here is the contact information for those individuals:

Computer Science Department Chair: Alan Garvey
Violette Hall 2166
785-7600
agarvey@truman.edu

Dean, School of Science and Mathematics: Dr. Tim Walston
Magruder Hall 2004
785-4248
samdean@truman.edu

Hopefully your experience with this class is positive. When and if you feel a complaint about this or another course is required, however, the procedure for lodging a complaint can be found on the University’s Report a Complaint page. Students taking an online course from outside of the state of Missouri should follow the complaint procedure offered here. Students are always asked to address their complaint to the professor of the course first when possible, then take their concerns to the Department Chair if the matter cannot be resolved with the faculty member.

LEARNER SUPPORT

The University provides a range of both academic and student support services to ensure your success. These offices can advise you on learning strategies, point you toward valuable services, and help you troubleshoot technical problems as they arise.
The Center for Academic Excellence provides advising services for students in their first year for most departments, as well as tutoring services. The Center is located in PML 109 and it may be reached at 660-785-7403.

Counseling Services

Counseling Services are available on campus at McKinney Center. Appointments may be scheduled by calling (660) 785-4014. An after-hours crisis line is also available at 660-665-5621.

IT Help Desk

The IT Service Center has combined the IT Call Center, Help Desk and Telephone Services into a one-stop location to serve you. You will find the following services and more when you stop by Pickler Library 203 or call 660-785-4544. You may submit a customer support ticket at this web address.

Office of Student Access and Disability Services

To obtain disability-related academic accommodations students with documented disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Office of Student Access and Disability Services (OSA) as soon as possible. Truman complies with ADA requirements. For additional information, refer to the Office of Student Access and Disability Services website at http://disabilityservices.truman.edu/

You may also contact OSA by phone at (660) 785-4478 or email studentaccess@truman.edu

IMPORTANT DATES

For more information on drop and add dates and fees, see the registrar’s schedule.

Start Date: Monday January 11, 2021
End Date of On-Campus Meetings: No on-campus meetings
Last Day of the Full Semester: Friday, April 30
Drop Dates:
  Last day to drop a course without a grade of “W” appearing on your transcript and no fee is January 15.
  Last day to drop a course without a grade of “W” appearing on your transcript but WITH a $50 fee is Friday, February 5.
  Last day to change to credit/no credit grading option is Friday, March 26.
  Last day to drop the class WITH a grade of “W” appearing on your transcript is Friday, April 9.
Withdrawal Date: April 30th is the last day to withdraw from ALL classes with no refund.

DISCIPLINE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Information on the Computer Science major can be accessed via the CS Department Website or the CS Catalog Description. This course counts toward the Area C elective in the Computer Science major or as an elective course in the Computer Science minor. This course is designated as Writing-Enhanced.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

University Policy

The University-wide attendance policy can be viewed here.

Definition of Attendance for This Course
The General Catalog states:

The university expects students to attend all classes, yet recognizes co-curricular opportunities could lead to class absences. Faculty, students, and staff have the responsibility to support an environment that upholds the integrity of a Truman education and students’ ability to experience a diversity of educational experiences. Truman adheres to Federal law regarding accommodations. Absences related to disability accommodations will be handled in coordination with the Disability Services Office. Absences related to Title IX will be handled in coordination with the Institutional Compliance Office.

No student having a sanctioned absence shall be penalized for such absence on account solely of being absent. Nothing in this policy is intended to excuse a student from the responsibility to make up missed work within a reasonable length of time. No faculty member will require documentation in support of a health-related absence. Nevertheless, students are strongly encouraged to attend required in-person or synchronous online class meetings when they can (i.e., they show no signs of illness and have no other sanctioned reason to be absent). Courses for which interactions are necessary to achieve the learning outcomes of the course (such as courses with a significant laboratory or performance component) may require attendance at some of those course elements not to exceed 50%. In extreme COVID-related circumstances where a student cannot meet even this expectation, the faculty member is advised to issue a grade of incomplete and require the student to fulfill the unmet requirement in a future semester.

A list of sanctioned absences can be found in the General Catalog (see link below). Sanctioned absences include serving as a representative of the University at intercollegiate athletic events, professional conferences, academic competitions, and field trips for courses, interviews for graduate school or careers, health-related absences (with documentation), and absences covered by Truman’s non-discrimination policy. If the absence is unexpected, the student should arrange to make up the missed work as soon as possible. An appeal of a faculty member’s attendance policy can be made through the University Grade Appeals process (see the General Catalog for details).

The complete Attendance Policy can be found in the General Catalog:

http://catalog.truman.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=1063#Attendance_Policy

Additional Spring 2021 Attendance Information

- No student having a sanctioned absence shall be penalized for such absence on account solely of being absent. Nothing in this policy is intended to excuse a student from the responsibility to make up missed work within a reasonable length of time.

- No faculty member will require documentation in support of a health-related absence.

- Nevertheless, students are strongly encouraged to attend required in-person or synchronous online class meetings when they can (i.e., they show no signs of illness and have no other sanctioned reason to be absent). Professors are encouraged to provide a clear mechanism for making up missed classes. The mechanism should work to achieve similar learning outcomes to those intended by class attendance, using activities that could involve make-up sessions, watching a recorded video of the class session, or other alternative assignments, according to the format of the course, the length of the absence and the resources available to the student and faculty member.

- In general, no part of a student’s final semester grade should be calculated based on attendance. Courses for which interactions are necessary to achieve the learning outcomes of the course (such as courses with a significant laboratory or
performance component) may require attendance at some of those course elements not to exceed 50%. In extreme COVID-related circumstances where a student cannot meet even this expectation, the faculty member is advised to issue a grade of incomplete and require the student to fulfill the unmet requirement in a future semester.

- The course’s policy must be in the syllabus and communicated with students by the first day of class.
- Courses with field or clinical placements may defer to the attendance policy of the cooperating agencies.

Class attendance is your responsibility. I understand that you will occasionally have to miss class. However, whether you are in class or not you will be responsible for all deadlines and all materials taught or assigned. Graded activities such as tests, quizzes, labs, in-class projects, etc. . . may not be made up. Exceptions to this will be at my discretion and must be arranged with me before the missed class. Be aware that in class I will cover significant amounts of material that is not covered by the textbook.

**GRADING**

- 40% for homework and programming assignments (roughly ten homework assignments, including some programming components, during the semester)
- 60% for three in-class exams and the cumulative final

Your final grade will be determined using the following scale:

- 100-90% A
- 89-80% B
- 79-70% C
- 69-60% D
- 59-below F

**ASSIGNMENTS**

*Homework Assignments*

You will use LaTeX to prepare solutions to assigned problems mostly from the textbook. We will briefly cover LaTeX in class and I will give you templates that guide you in the commands needed for the particular homework problems. You can use LaTeX in the Truman Windows image or on the departmental Linux server or at the very easy to use Overleaf website. You will upload pdf files produced by the LaTeX installation. One or two homework assignments may also use the Prolog logic programming language as described in class.

**STUDENTS’ AND INSTRUCTOR’S EXPECTATIONS**

*My Expectations of Students*

I expect students to read the relevant sections of the textbook, participate in person or via Zoom in the class lectures that cover the course material (also provided on slides), submit homework assignments when they are due, prepare for and pass the three, hour-long exams, plus the two-hour long final exam. I expect students to engage with the class, ask questions when they have them, and learn the concepts.

*What Students Should Expect of Me as Their Instructor*

During this course I will: respond to email within 24 hours, usually much more quickly, except maybe 48 hours on weekends; update you on any changes to our course in a timely manner; provide timely feedback on questions, activities, and assessments (no more than a week turn-around time, if work is submitted on time); make you aware of concerns I have with your performance or ability to succeed in the course; be available as a source of support in your learning.
If at any time I am forced to step away from the course for more than 48 hours, such as in the case of illness or personal emergency, I will notify the class as soon as possible and (if necessary) provide an additional point of contact for further information.

**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

*Learner Interaction*

I encourage students to interact with me and ask questions primarily through email. This is especially useful for technical questions related to homework problems and programming assignments. Email me what you have (as an attachment, usually) and ask about what isn’t working or you find confusing (or just indicate that you are lost). I am happy to Zoom with you during virtual office hours to talk through questions more related to understanding of concepts. It is also helpful to ask these kind of questions during class meetings, so that the whole class can hear the question and my response.

**NETIQUETTE AND CIVIL DIALOG**

As members of the Truman State University community online or on-campus, we all deserve the consideration and respect of one another as we go through this course. We should all be practicing basic courtesy. My office and classroom (including online spaces) are safe and welcoming environments for all students. I am entering this course under the assumption that everyone wants to be here and is excited about our topics. I expect us to treat everyone with respect.

When contacting a classmate or me via email, please follow basic etiquette guidelines that make online communication more efficient: Use a clear (but concise) subject line that conveys some sense of the email’s contents. Use the proper name or title for your addressee; err on the side of being overly formal if you’re not sure what name or title they prefer. Make sure that your audience has all the information they need in order to offer you a helpful response. This includes things like your name, the name of the class, and the assignment in question. Remember that we all (especially your professors) get a lot of email every day. If your message is not clear, you won’t get the best response.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

“ACADEMIC HONESTY – Personal and scholarly integrity are expected of everyone in the class. Failure to live up to those responsibilities, risks earning a failing grade on the assignment/examination, a failing grade for the course, and/or in serious cases expulsion for the academic program or University. The University policy on academic dishonesty as published in the Student Conduct Code and General/Graduate Catalog applies.”

(http://catalog.truman.edu/content.php?catoid=13&navoid=625&hl=academic+dishonesty&returnto=search#Academic_Dishonesty).

Anyone submitting work to be graded which, in my estimation and beyond reasonable doubt, is not his or her work alone will receive an F. **No group work is allowed unless I explicitly indicate that you can work in groups.** When you do hand in group work, you must always indicate that it is group work and who was involved in it. You are welcome to discuss assignments with anyone, but all work you hand in must be your own. Corrolary: If you provide work you produce to others, you are aiding and abetting their dishonesty and thus being dishonest yourself. Providing your work to others or giving answers to others is not acceptable.

**STUDENT SURVEY OF INSTRUCTION**

You will be asked to complete a survey regarding my instruction in this course at the end of the term. The survey is anonymous and I will not see the results until after grades have been completed. It is very important that I receive this feedback as it helps me to continuously improve this class. It also helps the University make decisions about our overall curriculum. Please be sure to participate in this survey opportunity.