

Spring 2009, Ma 204—*Programming with Robots*, Course Policy

Instructor: Albert Schueller
Text: (my notes)
Time: 2:30-3:20MWF
Office Hours: 3:20-4pm MWF, TBA
or by appointment
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1. **Goals:** At the end of this course, the successful *Programming with Robots* student should be able to:

- think algorithmically.
- construct clear, well-commented, modular computer programs to perform a variety of tasks.
- efficiently debug computer programs.
- understand the role of programming languages and compilers in the development of software.
- cite some of the historical and current issues of programming computers and computer science.

2. **Grading Policy:** Below is a breakdown of the components of your grade:

- Exams:** There will be 2 exams (**Feb 20th** and **Apr 10th**, subject to slight variation) during the semester excluding the final exam. Your overall test average will comprise 30% of your grade.
- Final Exam:** Your final exam (**Monday May 18th, 9–11am**) grade will comprise 25% of your grade.
- Homework:** There will be regular programming assignments. Your overall homework average will comprise 40% of your grade.
- Presentation Questions:** Each of you will be given a question relating to robotics and computer science. You are to answer it to the best of your ability using any resources so long as you cite them. Submit the answer (1 paragraph) in writing (with references) to me as well as present it to the class in 5 or 10 minutes. Your grade will be based on, among other things, the veracity of the answer, the level of discussion and interest generated, the thoughtfulness and creativity of the presentation and the apparent breadth of your knowledge about the subject. It will comprise 5% of your grade.
- Summary:**

Component	%
Tests (15%@)	30
Final	25
Homework	40
Presentation Questions	5
Total:	100

3. **Letter Grade Scale:** Letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	92-100	B+	88-89	C+	78-79	D+	68-69	F	<60
A-	90-91	B	82-87	C	72-77	D	62-67		
		B-	80-81	C-	70-71	D-	60-61		

- Cheating & Plagiarism:** The Internet provides a tempting way of completing that very pressing assignment. All of the work you submit to me is implicitly understood to be your own unless otherwise referenced. If it is discovered that it is not, you will be prosecuted under the College's plagiarism guidelines. Please talk to me before resorting to this.
- Late Work:** If your assignment is n days late, your grade on that assignment will be docked $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ percentage points. Weekend days are included as late days. Official school holidays are not.
- Other Etiquette:** If you have to miss class, drop me an email to let me know beforehand. To me, this falls under the rubric of common courtesy.