CMPSCI 145
Spring 2019
Representing, Storing, and Retrieving Information

Professor William T. Verts

Class:
> Lectures: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:15AM–12:05PM, ELAB 323.

Office Hours and Email:
> LGRC A357, Office hours M/W/F 2:45-3:45, and appointments at our mutual convenience. On Mondays I must leave directly after class, as I will be attending noon-time CMPSCI faculty meetings.
> verts@cs.umass.edu   Personal, for asking questions.   Put CMPSCI 145 in the subject line.
> literacy@cs.umass.edu   For submitting on-line materials.   Put CMPSCI 145 in the subject line.
> I read all email daily, but do not expect a speedy reply. I might not reply at all if the question is something I can address in class. Do NOT email attachments to me; they will be deleted. Do not call me at home.

TA:
> The TA(s) will hold office hours in LGRT 222, perform the grading, and be available to assist in all aspects of this course. Hours to be arranged. TA office is shared by all TAs and graders for all my courses.

Books: **REQUIRED:** *Representing, Storing, and Retrieving Information*, 4TH Edition, ©2009, William T. Verts. (Free text on the class site as an encrypted .PDF file. Download to your desktop. The password will be given in class.)

> **REQUIRED:** *Computer Science Companion*, REVISED 3RD Edition, 2017 Printing, ISBN 9781524943998, ~$28, by me. (It is OK if you have the unrevised 3RD edition from last year, but the revised version has new information, errors have been corrected, and it is now in color.) The *Computer Science Companion* is a required text for COMPSCI 105, 119, 120, and 145.

Web: http://www.cs.umass.edu/~verts   (then follow the link to the 145 page), or:
> http://www.cs.umass.edu/~verts/cmpsci145/cmpsci145.html
> http://www.cs.umass.edu/~verts/cmpsci145/quizzes/quizzes.html

Social Media:
> Please do not "friend" me on Facebook, Linked-In, or other social networks. I reserve Facebook for relatives, hiking buddies, and friends from high-school. I do not often post messages on Twitter.

Course Scoring (percentages may change according to number and type of assignment):
> Midterm 1   15% (open book, early March, in-class)
> Midterm 2   15% (open book, early April, in-class)
> Final Exam   25% (open book, Thursday, May 9, 10:30am, in ILC S140, with a take-home portion)
> Homework   15% (formally assigned homework, in-class exercises, in-class quizzes, etc.)
> Projects: 30% (sporadic)

Letter grades will be assigned according to final computed course score:
> A ≥ 90%, A- ≥ 88%, B+ ≥ 86%, B ≥ 80%, B- ≥ 78%, C+ ≥ 76%, C ≥ 64%, C- ≥ 62%, D+ ≥ 60%, D ≥ 50%, F < 50%. Missing either of the midterms, or the final exam, incurs an automatic F for the course. Fractional final course scores are rounded to the nearest integer. For example, 87.49999 rounds down to 87 (B+), while 87.50000 rounds up to 88 (A-).

Computer: It is expected that you either have your own computer running a later version of Mac OS-X or Windows (typically Windows 7, 8, or 10). Assignments may be completed on OIT equipment in UMass campus labs, but you *might* have some difficulties in using class-provided software there. Home computers should have a recent version of Microsoft Word and Excel installed. You must also have a working Internet connection and Web browser (Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome recommended). Ability to read .PDF files and to pack and unpack .ZIP files is required. Get a USB flash drive (SanDisk recommended) for archiving your data files, and for bringing work in to me or the TA to examine. I may provide free software for you to use.