1. basic info

Instructor: Professor J. L. Gross, 458 Comp Sci  
Quick Answers: gross@cs.columbia.edu  
Phone: 939-7015  
Office Hours: MW 2:40-3:30 (starts Mon 10 Sep 12)

Classroom: 833 S. W. Mudd  
Classtime: MW 1:10-2:25

TA: Papoj (Hua) Thamjaroenporn <pt2277@columbia.edu>  
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CourseNotes: by Prof. J. L. Gross  
posted on website
2. academic honesty

All homework submitted in this course is required to be \textit{individual} work, according to the strictest possible interpretation.

\textbf{NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED TO BE ACCESSIBLE DURING MY EXAMS.}

3. grading system

\textbf{Grading} on a 500-point basis, allocated as follows:
Homework is 20pts each; worst 1 of 6 scores are excluded.

- One point deducted for each day late or fraction thereof.
- Each student gets 5 no-penalty late days.

Two midterm quizzes count 100 pts each. Final Exam counts 200 pts.
All quizzes and the final exam are \textit{open book}. All quiz/exam problems originally designed for this offering of the course.

\textbf{Best-exam-counts-most} Your best exam score of the semester will be increased by 20\% if a midterm or by 10\% if the final, and your worse score decreased by 20\% if a midterm or by 10\% if the final.

Policy on Missing an In-class Exam
- Not Excused: grade of zero
- \textbf{Excused: the remaining exams count more}

Special Make-Up Exams
- Don’t even think about asking.
4. regrades

My objective is to grade as accurately and fairly as possible. If you think there is a mistake in grading your homework, please find the TA who graded the problem set at issue. If you think there is an error in grading your exam, please follow these guidelines.

If the total score is calculated incorrectly, just return your paper to me with a notation (on the front) to that effect. To have a problem regraded, you must explain in writing why you think you deserve a higher score. (The score is based on whatever you wrote on the paper and on nothing else. Please do not mention running out of time or how hard you studied.) Successful appeals occur when a student uses a correct method that is different from the methods I had in mind when I designed the scoring system for the exam.

TWO REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES of OVERRULED REGRADE REQUESTS

1. Although I wrote YES, I meant to write NO, so I should get credit.

2. Although the exam was open book, I could not find the answers anywhere in it, so the problems were unfair.

5. reasonability

Violating the reasonable person principle is at your own risk. Here are a few examples of unreasonable rhetoric. The complete list is infinitely long.

1) You overslept the start of the exam.
2) You missed a class and didn’t hear the announcement.
3) You have a self-diagnosed medical problem. Bring a note from the health provider.
4) You did not read or did not remember these rules.
5) If a dog eats your homework, please bring a note from the dog. 😊