

COMPSCI 1020 Course Outline Fall 2025

1. Course Information

Computer Science 1020A – **Foundations of Computer Science**

Course Location

Monday	9:30-11:30 AM	
Wednesday	9:30-10:30 AM	

List of Prerequisites:

- (Ontario Math MHF4U and Ontario Math MCV4U) or MATH 0110.
- Registration in the Computer Science Program or completion of first-year requirements.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from the Department of Computer Science to enroll in it, you may be removed and withdrawn from this course in accordance with university policy. This may be done after the add/drop deadline of the academic term, and the course will be marked as withdrawn (WDN) on your academic record. This decision may not be appealed.

2. Instructor Information

Instructor	Mike Domaratzki
Email	mdomarat@uwo.ca
Office	
Phone	
Office Hours	2-4 PM Monday, 10:30-11:30 Wednesday

Office Hours info:

- Office hours are in-person.
- Office hours on Mondays (2-4 PM) are in Middlesex College 345.
- Office hours on Wednesday (10:30-11:30) are in Middlesex College 355A.

Notes on Contacting me:

- You **must** use your Western (uwo.ca) email address when contacting me.
- Phone calls are **not recommended**, since I'm often not available in my office.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Course Location

Monday	9:30-11:30 AM	
Wednesday	9:30-10:30 AM	

Important Dates

Classes begin: Thursday, September 4, 2025

First class for this course: Monday, September 8, 2025

Thanksgiving Day (no class): Monday, October 13, 2025

Fall Reading Week: November 3-9, 2025

Last class for this course: Monday, December 8, 2025

Classes end: Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Exam period: December 11 – 22, 2025

Course Topics: The lengths of these topics are approximate and may be subject to change. The order of the topics may also be adjusted.

- Introduction to Set Theory (1 week): sets and basic operations.
- Introduction to Logic (2 weeks): introduction to basic logic including connectives, truth tables, and quantifiers.
- Numbers Systems (1 week): binary, decimal, and hexadecimal, and their importance in computer algorithms and data representation.
- Techniques of Counting (1 week): basics of combinatorics, learning to count.
- Operations, and Functions (1 week): algebraic concepts and functions.
- Proof fundamentals (2 weeks): how to construct and validate proofs, focusing on logical reasoning and analytical methods.
- Probability Theory (2 weeks): basic probability concepts, including conditional probability and Bayes' theorem.
- Computer Science roadmap (1 week): An introduction to the field of computer science and its various subdisciplines and applications.
- Responsibilities in Computer Science (1 week): an introduction to social issues and responsibilities in Computer Science.

4. Course Materials

Textbook

There is a required digital textbook, *Discrete Mathematics* (zybooks) for this course. A portion of your overall grade will come from the completion of the activities in the zybooks.

To register for the zyBook:

1. Sign up or sign in at learn.zybooks.com
2. Enter zyBook code: UWOCOMPSCI1020ABDomaratzkiFall2025
3. Subscribe to the book.

You **must use your Western email address and the same full name** as in your Western profile. There is a mark deduction of 5% of your zyBook grade portion if you sign up to ZyBooks with a different email address or name.

There are participation activities and challenge activities in zybooks. You are **required to complete only the participation activities. Challenge activities will not be included in your grade.**

Costs of Textbooks and Other Learning Materials/Activities

The course textbook has a cost of US\$ 52 (approximately CAN\$ 72).

Course Materials

All course material will be posted to OWL: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/>) regularly for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Technical Requirements

You must have an internet connected device to access course materials and assignments via OWL. An internet connected device (laptop, phone or tablet) is recommended but not required for class.

5. Methods of Evaluation

Grading Scheme and Assessment Dates

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Assignments (3)	21%
Quizzes (7)	14%
Tests (2)	25%
zybook exercises	5%
Final Exam	35%

Quizzes: Quizzes are held in-class and will be 20 minutes in length. The following tentative quiz topics are **not** final. Please consult the information provided in class for the final topics for each quiz.

Quiz	Date	Tentative topics
Quiz 1	Wednesday, September 24	Set theory
Quiz 2	Wednesday, October 1	Logic
Quiz 3	Wednesday, October 8	Logic
Quiz 4	Wednesday, October 22	Counting
Quiz 5	Wednesday, October 29	Numeration
Quiz 6	Wednesday, November 12	Functions and Relations
Quiz 7	Wednesday, November 26	Proofs
Quiz 8	Wednesday, December 3	Proofs
Quiz 9	Monday, December 8	Probability

Assignments: Assignment due dates below are **tentative** and may be adjusted. Assignments are due at 11:59 PM on the due dates. The assignments must be submitted through gradescope. Topics in each assignment will be finalized based on the pace of the class. Each assignment is worth 7% of your final grade.

Assignment	Tentative Due Date
Assignment 1	Monday, October 6
Assignment 2	Monday, November 10
Assignment 3	Monday, December 8

Assignments are to be done **individually**, not in groups. The submitted assignments should be your own work. Do not:

- **Show any part of your solutions to another student**
- Send any part of your solutions to someone
- Upload any part of your solution to a publicly accessible location.
- Receive or accept any part of anyone else's solutions.
- Use a generative AI tool to construct solutions to the assignment.
- Pay someone else to do the assignment for you.

Violation of any of these directives is considered an academic offence and discipline may apply.

Late assignments: Late submissions may be submitted up to 3 days after the deadline without penalty. After 3 days, assignments will not be accepted and will be marked as 0. This does not account for accommodations. No accommodated assignments will be accepted more than one week after the

assignment deadline – any accommodations that extend more than one week after the assignment deadline will result in the weight of that assignment being moved to the final exam.

Tests: Tests are held in class and are 45 minutes in length. The following tentative test topics are not final. Please consult with the resources provided in class in the week prior to the test. Each test is worth 12.5% of your final grade.

Test	Date	Tentative test topics
Test 1	Wednesday, October 15	Sets, Logic and Counting
Test 2	Wednesday, November 19	Numeration, relations and proofs

There will **not** be any make-up tests. If you cannot write a test for a valid reason and are given an approved Academic Consideration, the entire weight of the test will be shifted to the **final exam**.

- If you are given and approved Academic Consideration for one test, then the Final Exam will be worth $35+12.5=47.5\%$ of your final grade, while the other test will be worth 12.5% of your final grade.
- If you are given and approved Academic Consideration for both tests, then the final will be worth $35+25=60\%$ of your final grade.

Zybooks: There are weekly zybooks readings with activities that must be completed. Your zybooks progress will be checked at the end of the term so you aren't obligated to do the readings during the week in which they are assigned – however, it is recommended that you complete the exercises to stay on top of the material and leave yourself time at the end of the term to avoid having to do it all at once. **The final due date for all zybooks activities to be completed is Tuesday, December 9 at 11:59 PM.**

There are participation activities and challenge activities in zybooks. You are **required to complete only the participation activities. Challenge activities will not be included in your grade.** Each section of the textbook describes which activities must be completed.

Completing all the activities in all the required sections is worth 5% of your course grade. If you complete a portion of them, your grade will be based on the amount of these activities you completed. There is **no submission process** for zybooks – your grades will be automatically downloaded from the zybooks website based on your completion at the deadline.

Zybooks allows you to try repeatedly so you will get the marks if you complete the activities, even if it takes you multiple tries to complete them.

Final Exam: The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the exam period. The final exam will be 3 hours in length. The final exam is cumulative (i.e., covers all material from the course).

Use of Generative AI Tools

Generative AI tools are not permitted for exams, tests or quizzes. Use of a generative AI tools during any of these assessments is considered an academic offence.

For assignments, students are not permitted to submit any text generated by any generative AI tools as part of their final solutions for the assignment. Text generated by a generative AI tool submitted for an assignment in this course is considered an academic offence.

General information about missed coursework

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs*, posted on the Academic Calendar:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf,

This policy does not apply to requests for Academic Consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person.

The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult [Accessible Education](#).

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage:

https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/

All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

All Academic Consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the following assessments are excluded from this, and therefore always require formal supporting documentation:

- The final exam, scheduled during the December examination period.
- Test 2 on Wednesday, November 29. (This is the one designated assessment that requires documentation when requesting consideration.)

When a student mistakenly submits their one allowed Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** for the assessments listed above or those in the **Coursework with Assessment Flexibility** section below, the request cannot be recalled and reapplied. This privilege is forfeited.

Evaluation Scheme for Missed Assessments

If an assignment is not submitted by three days after the deadline and there is no accommodation for the assignment, it will receive a mark of zero. If an assignment has accommodation beyond one week from the assignment deadline, then the value of that assignment will be assigned to the final exam.

If a quiz is not submitted on the day of the assessment, it will be marked as zero. Only the top 7 of 9 quiz marks will be used to calculate the score for quizzes in the course. If a quiz is given an accommodation (beyond the first two missed quizzes), the quiz mark will be reweighted to the final exam. **There are no make-up quizzes.**

If a test is not submitted on the day of the assessment, it will be marked as zero. If a test is given an approved Academic Consideration, the test mark will be reweighted to the final exam. There are no make-up tests.

Zybooks exercises will be marked on the due date (Tuesday, December 9, 11:59 PM). If an accommodation is provided that extends past the end of classes, then the zybook exercises will be reweighted to the final exam.

When a student misses the Final Exam and their Academic Consideration has been granted, they will be allowed to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam). See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)), especially for those who miss multiple final exams within one examination period.

Essential Learning Requirements

Even when Academic Considerations are granted for missed coursework, a minimum grade on the weighted average of the tests and final exam component of the course is required to ensure that students demonstrate sufficient mastery of the learning outcomes.

To receive a grade of 50% or higher, you must achieve at least 45% weighted average between the two tests and the final exams. If you fail to meet this condition, your final mark will be either 45% or your calculated grade, whichever is lower.

To receive a grade of 60% or higher, you must achieve at least 50% weighted average between the two tests and the final exams. If you fail to meet this condition, your final mark will be either 55% or your calculated grade, whichever is lower.

Coursework with Assessment Flexibility

By policy, instructors may deny Academic Consideration requests for the following assessments with built-in flexibility.

Flexible Completion of Quizzes. This course has 9 quizzes, and the 7 quizzes with the highest marks are counted towards your final grade. Should extenuating circumstances arise, students do not need to request Academic Consideration for the first 2 missed quizzes. Academic consideration requests **will be denied** for the first 2 missed quizzes. Academic Consideration requests may be granted when students miss more than 2 quizzes, and these additional (3rd, 4th...) missed quizzes will be reweighted to the final exam.

Deadline with a No-Late Penalty Period for Assignments. Students are expected to submit each of the 3 assignments by the deadline listed. Should extenuating circumstances arise, students do not need to request Academic Consideration and they are permitted to submit their assignment up to 3 days past the deadline with no penalty. No assignments will be accepted (without academic consideration) more than 3 days past the deadline. Academic Consideration requests may be granted only for circumstances that started before the deadline and last longer than the Late Period (3 days).

6. Additional Statements

6.1 Religious Accommodation

When conflicts arise with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request an accommodation for their absence in writing to the course instructor and/or the Academic Advising office of their Faculty of Registration. This notice should be made as early as possible, but not later than two weeks prior to the writing of the examination (or one week prior to the writing of the test).

Please visit the Diversity Calendars posted on our university's EDID website for the recognized religious holidays - <https://www.edi.uwo.ca>

6.2 Academic Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

6.3 General Academic Policies

The website for Registrar Services is <https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>.

Use of @uwo.ca email: In accordance with policy, https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf, the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university email address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that emails received from the University at their official university address are attended to in a timely manner.

Requests for Relief (formally known as "appeals")

Policy on Request for Relief from Academic Decision:

https://uwo.ca/univsec//pdf/academic_policies/appeals/requests_for_relief_from_academic_decisions.pdf

Procedures on Request for Relief from Academic Decision (Undergraduate):

https://uwo.ca/univsec//pdf/academic_policies/appeals/undergrad_requests_for_relief_procedure.pdf

6.4 Scholastic Offences

Policy on Scholastic Offences:

https://uwo.ca/univsec//pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_offences.pdf

Procedures on Scholastic Offences (Undergraduate):

https://uwo.ca/univsec//pdf/academic_policies/appeals/undergrad_scholastic_offence_procedure.pdf

Use of Electronic Devices During Assessments

In courses offered by the Faculty of Science, the possession of unauthorized electronic devices during any in-person assessment (such as tests, midterms, and final examinations) is strictly prohibited. This

includes, but is not limited to: mobile phones, smart watches, smart glasses, and wireless earbuds or headphones.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise in advance by the instructor, the presence of any such device at your desk, on your person, or within reach during an assessment will be treated as a *scholastic offence*, even if the device is not in use.

Only devices expressly permitted by the instructor (e.g., non-programmable calculators) may be brought into the assessment room. It is your responsibility to review and comply with these expectations.

Use of Generative AI Tools

Unless otherwise stated, the use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, Google Gemini, or similar platforms) is **not permitted** in the completion of any course assessments, including but not limited to: assignments, lab reports, presentations, tests, and final examinations.

Using such tools for content generation, code writing, problem solving, translation, or summarization—when not explicitly allowed—will be treated as a **scholastic offence**.

If the use of generative AI is permitted for a particular assessment, the conditions of use will be specified by the instructor in advance. If no such permission is granted, students must assume that use is prohibited. It is your responsibility to seek clarification before using any AI tools in academic work.

6.5 Support Services

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Advising webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, requests for relief, exam conflicts, and many other academic-related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. If you have any questions regarding accommodations, you may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

Learning-skills counsellors at Learning Development and Success (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual

support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <https://westernusc.ca/services/>.