

Course Syllabus

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 Edit

Instructor: Dr. Lauren Grimley, Office: PHSC 529

Contact information: lgrimley@ou.edu (<mailto:lgrimley@ou.edu>)

Class Time: TR 12-1:15 PM, Class Location: Carson Energy Center 0117

Teaching Assistants: Gladis Menachery Sunny (Gladis.Menachery.Sunny-1@ou.edu). Gladis will hold office hours

TBD

Office Hours (Student hours): Student hours are for you. They are time reserved to meet with the instructor to ask questions about class, seek help, find additional resources, have a pleasant conversation, or provide me with insight on how I can better support you in the class. Should these times conflict with your course schedule, you can reach out to arrange another time to meet.

Mondays 11AM-12 (noon) and Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES: Prerequisite: CS 2413 and CS 2813 or MATH 2513 or CS 5005 or DSA 5005. Introduction to abstract machine theory and formal language theory. Topics include Turing machines, finite/pushdown automata, deterministic versus nondeterministic computations, context-free grammars, and mathematical properties of these systems.

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS: "Automata, Computability, and Complexity" by Elaine Rich which is available for free [here](#)

<https://www.cs.utexas.edu/~ear/cs341/automatabook/AutomataTheoryBook.pdf>

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GRADING: Grades are determined by two exams (30%), homework (20%), quizzes (20%), and a cumulative final exam (20%). The remaining 10% will be determined by the best of the three exams. The *minimum* grade you need in order to attain each letter grades is:

A	B	C	D	F
90	80	70	60	0

Any estimated final grade calculated by Canvas are not to be considered official grades. Except where otherwise noted, no late work will be accepted. One homework assignment and two quiz grades will be dropped in order to account for unexpected circumstances which may arise and affect performance.

ATTENDANCE: It is important to attend class regularly and engage in the material.

HOMEWORK: Homework will be assigned each week. Assignments will be posted on Canvas and submitted via gradescope. *Students are allowed to discuss problems with others, however all submitted work must be in your own words, as you understand it.*

GENERATIVE AI POLICY: As mentioned in the paragraph above, all work on exams and quizzes must be yours and yours alone without outside help, including the use of generative AI. Unless otherwise specified, students are not to use these tools to complete assignments.

QUIZZES: Quizzes will be administered during most class days, without prior notice. Students should be prepared to answer questions based upon material discussed in class and/or requested readings. The purpose of the quizzes is to provide immediate formative assessment to inform both the instructor and the students of the student's current level of understanding. While most quizzes will be open-note, open-textbook, they will require quick responses. Quizzes will be both written and administered through TopHat.

EXAMS:

There will be two exams during the semester, taken during regular class time, in addition to a cumulative final exam. The following is the approximate schedule of the exams. Should we need to deviate from this schedule to better serve the goals of the course, students will be notified in advance.

Exam 1: Thursday, February 24

Exam 2: Tuesday, April 14

The cumulative final exam will be, as officially scheduled, May 12 from 1:30-3:30 PM.

Exams, taken during the scheduled time, will be graded as follows. Scores will begin at 50. The remaining 50 points (out of 100) will be determined by students' responses to 5 questions, worth 10 points each. Should a student unexpectedly miss the scheduled midterm exam without prior approval, the midterm will be determined by the student's percentage out of 50, with scores beginning from 0.

Grades will not typically be curved, and grade adjustments on a case-by-case basis will not be made (and so please do not ask).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Unless there are explicit instructions to the contrary, all homework, quizzes, projects, presentations, and exams will be entirely your own work. The use of work done by others without giving credit or having permission is considered plagiarism. A violation of these policies is an immediate and serious breach of the academic integrity policies of the University

Cheating is strictly prohibited at OU. It is the instructor's professional obligation to report academic misconduct. Sanctions for academic misconduct can include expulsion from the University and an F in this course. Typically, all work on exams and quizzes must be yours and yours alone without any outside help. It is your responsibility to know and follow the rules set by the instructor.

ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: Students requiring academic accommodation should contact the Accessibility and Disability Resource Center for assistance at

(405)325-3852 or TDD: (405)325-4173. If you have accommodations in place, please contact your instructor within the first week of classes (or within the first week of accommodations being approved for you) in order to discuss the relevant details for implementing your accommodations. Note that depending on the specific accommodations requested and the structure of the course, you may need to be referred to the course coordinator to make appropriate arrangements for accommodations for uniform exams and/or quizzes.

DISCRIMINATION, BIAS, HARASSMENT: In light of incidents on other campuses and to further enhance responsiveness, the OU has established a 24-hour Reporting Hotline. The hotline will serve as an added protection for OU students, handling reports of bias, discrimination, physical or mental harassment or misconduct by OU community members. The 24-hour Reporting Hotline can be accessed by calling 844-428-6531 or going online to www.ou.ethicspoint.com.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: During an emergency, there are official university procedures that will maximize your safety. There are also severe weather refuge sites on campus.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Long before the University of Oklahoma was established, the land on which the University now resides was the traditional home of the Hasinai Caddo Nation and Kirikir?i:s Wichita & Aliated Tribes. We acknowledge this territory once also served as a hunting ground, trade exchange point, and migration route for the Apache, Comanche, Kiowa and Osage nations. Today, 39 tribal nations dwell in the state of Oklahoma as a result of settler and colonial policies that were designed to assimilate Native people. The University of Oklahoma recognizes the historical connection our university has with its indigenous community. We acknowledge, honor and respect the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land. We fully recognize, support and advocate for the sovereign rights of all of Oklahoma's 39 tribal nations. This acknowledgement is aligned with our university's core value of creating a diverse and inclusive community. It is an institutional responsibility to recognize and acknowledge the people, culture and history that make up our entire OU Community.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES: If you are experiencing any mental health issues that are impacting your academic performance, counseling is available at the University Counseling Center located on the second floor of the Goddard Health Center at 620 Elm, Rm. 201. To schedule an appointment call (405)325-2911.

















PREGNANCY/CHILDBIRTH ACCOMMODATIONS: Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact your professor as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability.





















RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS: OU policy excuses missed classwork due to absences of students that result from religious observances without penalty. For more, see Faculty Handbook section 3.15.2.










SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION (TITLE IX RESOURCES): For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, or stalking, OU offers a variety of resources. To learn more or to report an incident, please contact the

Sexual Misconduct Office at (405)325-2215 (8am-5pm, M-F) or smo@ou.edu. Incidents can also be reported confidentially to OU Advocates at (405)615-0013 (phones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Be advised that a professor/GA/TA is required to report instances of sexual harassment, sexual assault, or discrimination to the Sexual Misconduct Office. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies can be directed to either a Title IX Coordinator or University Equal Opportunity Officer (405)325-3546 or smo@ou.edu.

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Jan 29, 2026	 Homework 0 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368566 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 5, 2026	 Homework 1 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368567 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 12, 2026	 Homework 2 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368568 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 19, 2026	 Homework 3 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368569 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Feb 19, 2026	 Homework 4 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368570 	due by 11:59pm
Tue Feb 24, 2026	 Exam 1 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3353132 	due by 12pm
Tue Feb 24, 2026	 Deterministic FSM Practice https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368564 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Mar 5, 2026	 Homework 5 https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368571 	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Thu Mar 12, 2026	 <u>Homework 6</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368572) 	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 31, 2026	 <u>Homework 7</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368573) 	due by 11:59pm
Thu Apr 9, 2026	 <u>Homework 8</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368574) 	due by 11:59pm
Tue Apr 14, 2026	 <u>Exam 2</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3353133) 	due by 12pm
Thu Apr 16, 2026	 <u>Homework 9</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368575) 	due by 11:59pm
	 <u>Appendix A: Mathematical Background</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368554) 	
	 <u>Best Exam</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368556) 	
	 <u>Chapter 11</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368557) 	
	 <u>Chapter 2</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368558) 	
	 <u>Chapter 3</u> (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368559) 	

Date	Details	Due
	 Chapter 4 (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368560) 	
	 Chapter 5 (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368561) 	
	 Chapter 6 (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368562) 	
	 Chapter 8 (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368563) 	
	 Final Exam (https://canvas.ou.edu/courses/468760/assignments/3368565) 