Course Information

Lecturer Prof. Albert R. Meyer
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Secretary David Jones
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Lectures Class meets MWF from 1:00–2:00 PM in 2–143. There is no TA; no graders; no recitation sections. The lecturer and course secretary will be available by email and personally by appointment.

Prerequisites The formal prerequisites are any of 6.042 *Mathematics for Computer Science*, 18.063 *Introduction to Algebraic Systems*, or 18.310 *Principles of Applied Mathematics*. The operational prerequisite is knowledge of the basic vocabulary of mathematics and elementary proof methods. With such mathematical background you should be able to handle this course. *The instructor's permission* is required to take the course If you have not met the formal prerequisites.

Students who have taken 6.045J/18.400J or 6.840J/18.404J have more than met the prerequisites but are still welcome to take this course. (About a half-dozen (out of 39) lectures will overlap in coverage between this 6.044J/18.423J course and 6.045J/18.400J or 6.840J/18.404J.)

Textbook There is no required text. Lecture notes and excerpts from texts such as

- *Introduction to the Formal Semantics of Programming Languages* by Glynn Winskel, published by MIT Press in 1993, and
- *Foundations of Programing Languages*, by John C. Mitchell, MIT Press, 1996,

will be distributed during the term.

Collaboration You are encouraged to collaborate in solving the homework problems. Study groups provide an excellent means to master the material of the course. However, you should write solutions on your own and in your own words. You must neither copy solutions nor provide solutions to be copied. You must cite, in writing, everyone who helped you in any way on the problem set. No collaboration will be allowed on exams.

Plagiarism, cheating, and similar anti-intellectual behavior are serious academic offenses and will be dealt with accordingly. If you are unsure about this code of ethics, please talk to the lecturer.

Grading and Problem Sets There will be about six problem sets, two in-class quizzes, and a final exam. The problem sets will be roughly equally spaced throughout the term. If you are unable to complete a homework by the due date, please talk to the instructor *in advance*. The problems and exams count about equally toward the final grade. The grading is nonlinear: ace the homework *or* the exams and you get an A—but counting on exam grades to outweigh neglected homework is a high-risk strategy.

In addition to (1) your name, (2) the date, (3) the problem set and problem numbers, include with your problem set submission

(4) the names of everyone with whom you collaborated or consulted

about the problems—say "no-one" if you did the problem set entirely on your own.

Clarity of problem solutions is important. Poorly written answers will not receive full credit even if they are correct. Do not use red or green ink to write up your homework; these colors are used for grading.

Web Page and Email Forum All handouts will be available on the course WWW page at

`ftp://theory.lcs.mit.edu/pub/classes/6.044/homepage.html`

Please subscribe to the class email forum by sending email to

`6044-secretary@theory.lcs.mit.edu`

Other administrative requests should also be directed to this address.

Email you send to `6044-forum@theory.lcs.mit.edu` broadcasts to the class mailing list. This email forum is intended for general course-related communication by class members, and you are encouraged to use it to arrange study sessions, discuss homework, and send comments (and gripes `:-)`) to the whole class. The instructor also emails anouncements and corrections to this list.