CS 517 Theory of Computation

Catalog Description: Turing machines, decidability, NP-completeness, complexity classes, randomized computation, relativization, circuit complexity, interactive proof systems, lower bounds, cryptography.

Credits: 4  Terms Offered: Spring

Prerequisites: Graduate Standing in Computer Science

Courses that require this as a prerequisite: None

Structure: Two 100-minute lectures per week.

Instructors: Prasad Tadepalli

Course Content:
1) Turing Machines, Church-Turing Thesis
2) Decidability, Reducibility
3) Time and Space complexity measures, hierarchy theorems
4) Complexity classes P, NP
5) NP-Completeness, Polynomial-time Reductions
6) Space Complexity, PSPACE, PSPACE-completeness
7) L, NL, and NL-completeness
8) Relativization, Circuit Complexity
9) Randomization, BPP and RP
10) Advanced Topics (e.g., Interactive Proof Systems, Cryptography, Lower Bounds)

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes:
At the completion of the course, students will be able to…
1. Show equivalence of different kinds of Turing Machines
2. Prove undecidability of computational problems
3. Prove NP-completeness through polynomial-time reductions
4. Prove PSPACE-completeness and NL-completeness results
5. Prove results that involve relativization and randomization
6. State the fundamental results in complexity theory
7. Explain the notions of interactive proofs, lower bounds, cryptosystems, etc.

Learning Resources:

- Class Notes.
Evaluation of Student Learning:

- Weekly Quizzes and Homeworks (30%)
- Mid Term (30%)
- Final Exam (40%)

Students with Disabilities:
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 737-4098.

Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct:
http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm

3/10/2010