

# Introduction to Theory of Computation (COMP 3803)

Winter 2021

**Instructor:** Michiel Smid

**Office:** Herzberg Building 5125C. (Note that it is unlikely that we are allowed to enter Herzberg.)

**Email:** [michiel@scs.carleton.ca](mailto:michiel@scs.carleton.ca)

**Course webpage:** <http://cglab.ca/~michiel/3803.html>

## Lectures:

- Official lecture times: Monday and Wednesday, 10:05 - 11:25am.
- There won't be live lectures. Instead, links to prerecorded video lectures will be posted.

**Course objectives:** Theoretical aspects of computer science.

**Prerequisites:** COMP 2804.

**Topics covered include:** Formal languages and automata theory (regular languages, finite automata, context-free languages, pushdown automata), computability theory (Turing machines, Church-Turing Thesis, decidability, Halting Problem).

## Grading scheme:

- 4 assignments: 25%
- midterm: 25%
- final exam: 50%

**Important dates (assignments due dates, midterm format and final exam format):** These will be posted on the course web page.

**Academic Integrity (New, Please Read):** As of 2020, there are new penalties in place for academic integrity violations. These will be issued by the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Affairs) of Science to students who copy, in whole or in part, work they submit for assignments.

- First offence, first-year students (< 4.0 credits completed): No credit for assessment(s) in question, or a final grade reduction of one full letter grade (e.g., A- becomes B-), whichever is a greater reduction.
- First offence (anyone else): A grade of F in the course.
- Second offence (anyone): A grade of F in the course and a one-term suspension from studies.
- Third offence: Expulsion from the University.

Note: While these are the standard penalties, more severe penalties may be applied when warranted.

For more information, go to <https://science.carleton.ca/academic-integrity/>

**Undergraduate Academic Advisor:** The undergraduate advisor for the School of Computer Science is available in Room 5302C HP, by telephone at 520-2600, ext. 4364 or by email at [undergraduate\\_advisor@scs.carleton.ca](mailto:undergraduate_advisor@scs.carleton.ca). The advisor can assist with information about prerequisites and preclusions, course substitutions/equivalencies, understanding your academic audit and the remaining requirements for graduation. The undergraduate advisor will also refer students to appropriate resources such as the Science Student Success Centre, Learning Support Services and the Writing Tutorial Services.

**University Policies:** Carleton University is committed to providing access to the educational experience in order to promote academic accessibility for all individuals. Information on how to apply for academic accommodation can be found at <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>