

**CS 252 - Introduction to Computational Theory
Spring 2012**

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Prerequisite: CS 236 or Concurrent Enrollment.

Class Website: <http://students.cs.byu.edu/~cs252ng/>.

Text: Thomas A. Sudkamp, "Languages and Machines: An Introduction to Theory of Computer Science, Third Edition," 2005, Addison Wesley (required).

Lecture Notes for CS 252: <http://students.cs.byu.edu/~cs252ng/notes.html>.

Objectives:

- to study the theory of computation
- to learn the traditional topics of formal languages, automata, computability, and computational complexity
- to understand the foundations of theoretical computer science

Grading: The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Homework Assignments:	20%	Projects:	30%
Midterm Exam:	20%	Final Exam:	30%

Final letter grades will be given according to University (Grading) Policies as follows:

A: 93-100%	A-: 90-92%			
B+: 87-89%	B: 84-86%	B-: 80-83%		
C+: 77-79%	C: 74-76%	C-: 70-73%		
D+: 67-69%	D: 64-66%	D-: 60-63%	E: Below 60%	

Policy:

Homework & project assignments. Assignments will be given every week and are due at the *beginning of the class lecture* on the due date. Late homework assignments will not be accepted; however, you are allowed to drop **one** of your lowest homework scores. Project assignments cannot be dropped, but can be turned in late with penalty: 5% off on the 1st late day, 10% off on the 2nd late day, 15% off on the 3rd late day, and 20% off till the due date of the next project assignment, except the last project assignment which is accepted till the last day of school. (All the days are school days.) After that, no credit will be given.

Midterm exam. There will be one midterm exam. Everyone must take the midterm exam at the *Testing Center* on the scheduled dates. The midterm and final exams are closed book and notes.

Exam appeal policy. Students can appeal the grading of their midterm exam any time after the exam has been graded up till the last day of school. The appeal will be reviewed and a final decision will be made by your instructor. Any mistakes made in grading will be corrected; however, partial credits given for *incomplete* or *partially correct answers* are *non-negotiable*.

Final exam. The final exam will be comprehensive, but will be weighted towards the chapters covered after the midterm exams. The final will be given at the *Testing Center* on the scheduled dates.