

ELEX 4550 Course Information

Instructor

Ed Casas. You can reach me by e-mail at ecasas@bcit.ca or by phone at +1 604 432 8936.

Questions can also be posted to the course discussion forum (see below).

I cannot reply to e-mail sent from the course web site.

Office Hours

My office is in SW1-3061 which is accessed through SW1-3059. Office hours are scheduled for one hour beginning:

Date	Time
Wednesday	11:30 AM
Wednesday	2:30 PM
Thursday	12:30 PM

You can drop by my office without making an appointment at the above times or at any other time by making an appointment.

Lab and Lecture Schedule

Lectures are 50 minutes long starting at:

Monday	12:30 PM
Tuesday	10:30 AM
Thursday	11:30 AM

Labs are 110 minutes long starting at:

Set 4A	Tuesday	2:30 PM
Set 4B	Friday	10:30 AM

Check the course web site for room numbers, lab schedule and changes to the lecture schedule.

Lectures begin January 27 and end May 15. There are no lectures on Monday, February 10 (Family Day), Monday, April 21 (Easter Monday), and Monday, May 19 (Victoria Day). There is no lab on Friday, April 18 (Good Friday).

Evaluation

Component	Percent
Final Exam	40%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Labs	20%
Assignments	20%

There will be one two- or three-hour final exam and one one-hour mid-term exam.

The lab mark will be assigned as follows:

Component	Percent
pre-lab assignment	20%
completion of lab objectives	60%
accurate, complete and well-written lab report	20%

Since the purpose of the pre-lab assignments is to prepare for the lab, it must be submitted (on-line) before the start of the lab or you will receive a mark of zero for the pre-lab. Labs must be completed and reports submitted (on-line) within one week of the end of the lab.

Several assignment will be given out during the term and will be due one week later. Solutions will be given out for all questions but not all questions will be marked. Late assignments may be given a mark of zero.

Lecture Notes

There is no textbook for this course. Instead, lecture notes will be handed out before each lecture. Most lectures will include exercises that you will complete during the lecture. You should bring a notebook to class where you can write your own notes and the answers to the exercises.

Andrew Tanenbaum's *Computer Networks*, 5th Edition and William Stallings' *Data and Computer Communications*, 9th edition, both published by Prentice-Hall are readable introductions to many aspects of computer networking. Both are available from the BCIT Library.

File Formats

There are many incompatible file formats. Sending someone a document in a format they cannot read is, at the very least, an inconvenience.

You must submit assignments and lab reports to the course web site in the required format. *If you do not submit an assignment or lab report in the required format I will not read it and you will receive a mark of zero.*

If the file format is not specified, submit reports and assignments *in PDF format*.

Creating PDF Files

Many word processors (including the free [LibreOffice](#)) will export to PDF files. Various utilities (for example, [the free CutePDF](#)) allow you to print any document to a PDF file.

Embedding Content

Since most assignments and labs must be prepared as PDF files, you should learn to include various types of content in your documents. In particular, you should be able to include:

- scans or photographs of hand-written content;
- graphs and tables created in other 'Office'-type programs and embedded in your document;
- the screen output of arbitrary software using Windows' 'Snip' tool

Significant Figures

Read the Wikipedia article on [Significant Figures](#). Marks will be deducted for using an unwarranted number of significant figures in your assignments and lab reports.

Course Web Site

Lecture notes, assignments, lab notes and solutions will be handed out during lectures and will also be made available on the course web site (<https://learn.bcit.ca/d2l/home/163958>).

Students can also ask and answer questions using the web site's discussion forum.

I cannot reply to e-mail sent from the course web site.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism means taking credit for the work of another. Read the [BCIT Student Guide to Plagiarism](#) if you are not clear on the topic.

Exams, labs and assignments are to be done individually unless otherwise indicated. Students are encouraged to seek help from classmates but copying is not allowed. Instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Associate Dean and dealt with according to BCIT policy [5104](#) ("Sanctions range up to and including suspension from the institute.").

Assignments, labs and exams may be set up in a way that allows plagiarism to be detected. This may not be obvious to you. If asked, help your classmates find their own solutions, do not share your solution with them.