

15-418/618 Spring 2020
Exam 2
PRE-EXAM INFORMATION

Released:	Wed., April 15	12:00 Noon EDT
Clarification Requests Accepted	Thu., April 16	12:00 Noon EDT
Clarifications Posted	Thu., April 16	4:00 pm EDT
Submissions Due:	Fri., April 17	12:00 Noon EDT

Instructions

You are to work on this exam wherever you are. The following instructions give very detailed guidelines on what resources you can reference while working on the exam and any communications you can have regarding the contents of the exam.

As noted above, we will accept requests for clarifications and for additional resources during the first 24 hours of this exam. These should be posted as private messages on the class Piazza site. We will respond to these requests by either making Piazza posts (to the entire class if we believe clarifications are necessary), or by adding additional links to the Exam 2 resource web page:

<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~418/exams/resources-exam2/resources.html>

We will attempt to respond as soon as possible, but in any case, all clarifications and additional resources will be available by 4:00 pm on Thu., April 16. After that, in fairness to the people working across many time zones, we will not provide any further information about the exam. Be sure to check Piazza and to get the final version of the exam once all clarifications have been posted.

Some Advice: We recommend you attempt to do as much of the exam as you can during the first 24 hours so that you will be able to make effective requests for clarifications and information. Use the final 20 hours to make sure your answers are consistent with any additional information provided.

We have limited ability to verify that you have followed these guidelines. We are therefore relying on an honor system. We expect that you will follow these rules out of your own sense of honesty and integrity to yourself, to your education, to Carnegie Mellon University, and to the other students. We will require you to signify that you have followed our guidelines with a pledge when you submit your solution.

You will submit an electronic version of your solution to Gradescope as a PDF file. We have prepared a separate document for you to provide your answers, available at:

<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~418/exams/exam2/exam2-answer.pdf>

For those of you familiar with the \LaTeX text formatter, you can download the template file at:

<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~418/exams/exam2/exam2-answer.tex>

Instructions for how to use this template are included as comments in the file. Otherwise, you can use the PDF document as your starting point. You can either: 1) electronically modify the PDF, or 2) print it out, write your answers by hand, and scan it. In any case, we expect your solution to follow the formatting of the answer document.

Allowed Resources

As a general rule, you are allowed to view a document from the WWW *only if* it has a URL beginning with one of the following prefixes:

- <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~418/>
- <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/afs/cs.cmu.edu/academic/class/15418-s20/www/>
- <https://piazza.com/class/k4y1ja6hsj86xn> (The class Piazza site)
- <https://www.gradescope.com/courses/78440> (The class Gradescope site)

These include the following:

- All course information pages
- All handouts, including slides, assignments, exercises, exercise solutions, practice exams, and practice exam solutions.
- All code that has been provided to you as examples
- The information pages we provide at the [Exam 2 resource](#) web page.

In addition you may make use of the following:

- Any videos that have been linked from the course [schedule](#) web page
- Any code we provided to you for one of the assignments or for any of the code you developed and submitted for an assignment.
- Any notes you have prepared during the course or in preparation for the exam.
- You may write and test programs in any language you choose.
- You may use calculators, spreadsheets, and make use of other productivity tools.

The above set of resources is exclusive. If there are additional resources you believe would be useful and appropriate, you may post a request and we will consider whether to make them available. Examples could include:

- Wikipedia entries

- Linux man pages
- Documentation on some language feature that you would like to use.

We will provide these resources by making a copy of the desired web document, stripping out any hyperlinks, and providing them at the [Exam 2 resource](#) web page.

Disallowed Resources

Do not trust your own judgment on what additional resources are appropriate for you to use. Only those we have explicitly allowed can be used.

You may not follow links accessible from the class web page, if they do not begin with one of the prefixes listed above. In particular, you may not use any resources from previous versions of this course.

You may not make use of any additional material you may have on hand, such as textbooks or notes from other courses. If there is additional background material that you think is necessary, you should post a request. Note, however, that we expect you to have competencies in C/C++ programming, basic data structures, and basic math.

Allowed Communications

You may not have any form of communication, electronic or otherwise, with anyone except the course instructors and teaching assistants regarding the contents of this exam. As described above, we will accept requests for clarifications or for additional resources during the first 24 hours of the exam.

Pledge

On the answer sheet, you must (electronically) sign the following pledge:

I do hereby swear that, in generating my answers to this exam, I made use of only the resources explicitly listed in the exam document. I did not have any communication of any form with anyone other than the course instructors and teaching assistants about the contents of this exam.

Signed