

CS4 First Steps Checklist

Spring 2019

1 Introduction

Welcome to CS4! We're very excited to get started, but we need to get some logistical tasks out of the way first. Please get all of the following to-do's done as soon as possible (**preferably by the end of your first TA section**). If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out and email the HTAs at cs0040headtas@lists.brown.edu.

2 To-Do Checklist (roughly 4 hours total, can be less)

>> Information

Visit our website! (as many times as you want)

Here is our hyperlinked [course website](#), where you will find all the course documents you'll need to be successful in this course.

Read the Course Missive (10-20 min)

Our [CS4 Syllabus / Course Missive](#) is located here.

Read Collaboration Policy (5-10 minutes)

Each CS course has a specific set of rules that specify the degree and the nature of any work you do with other students in the class. It is essential that you understand these policies, so you will need to read the policies and sign an electronic document confirming that you agree to abide by these rules. Here is our [CS 0040 Collaboration Policy](#).

Complete Collaboration Policy Agreement (< 5 minutes)

After reading the collaboration policy, please complete the [Google form](#).

>> Logistics and Scheduling

Sign up for Piazza (< 5 minutes)

Piazza is an online forum that is a great way for the instructor and TA staff to answer any questions you may have about assignments or course logistics. Before you can post, you must create a Piazza account. The link to register is here (<https://piazza.com/brown/spring2019/cs4>).

It can also be found under "Quick Links" on the course homepage. If you have any problems or

questions about the other steps in this document, please post them on Piazza. Please use your Brown email account (xxx_yyy@brown.edu). Students enrolled should have received an email invite.

Sign up for a weekly TA Section (5-10 minutes)

If you haven't done so yet, please sign up for a section [here](#). These sections will take place on Thursdays and Friday. Attendance is mandatory and will count for 5% of your grade! If you can't make any of the listed times please email the HTAs. Sections will be held starting Thursday, January 31st.

>> Technology

Install Python (1+ hours)

In order to run Python for the purposes of this course, you'll need to install a few different things: Atom, Anaconda and PyCharm. Please follow our [CS4 Python Installation Guide](#).

Install MATLAB (2+ hours)

Please see the [CS4 MATLAB Installation Guide](#) to complete installation. Also please note that this installation does not need to be done ASAP, but it's prudent to get it done before the second half of the course where we actually use MATLAB.