CS22 Hours Policy

Hours Motivation

In the past, CS22 hours have been semi-lecture style, with a TA leading a group of students through different problems. While this has its merits, this year we want to use a collaboration focused hours style. Rather than being led by a TA, we want students to work in small groups, seeking help from a TA when necessary to progress. We want hours to be a place for students to practice and hone their problem solving skills with each other rather than a place for acquiring solutions to the weekly problem sets.

What to Expect at Hours

As stated above, hours are meant to be a place to work together to solve problems. Here’s what you should expect to see/do at hours:

- Work in small groups with other students to solve the homework problems.
- Get advice from a TA when your group gets stuck.
- Have general concepts from class reinforced by a TA.

Here’s what you shouldn’t expect to see at hours:

- Students who have already solved problems giving the solutions to other students.
- TAs leading lecture-style presentations that work through entire problems.
- Students working on typing up their finalized submissions.

Again, the emphasis is on collaboration and practicing problem solving techniques, not finishing the problem set as quickly as possible.

Hours Policy

While at hours, students are expected to work in small groups with other students to solve the homework problems. The focus should be on figuring out the problems, not on actually writing up that week’s problem set (since your submission must be written up alone). To try to make this style of hours as effective as possible, we have the following policies:
• While at hours, laptops can be out to be used as a reference for notes and that week’s problem set, **but typing is not allowed.** This is to prevent students from working on typing up their set while at hours. We reserve the right to disallow laptop use in its entirety if too many students are breaking the typing policy.

• Using paper for scratch work is permitted. However, keep in mind that the final weekly submission must be the student’s own work.

• Taking pictures or videos during hours is not permitted. While we understand that it’s often helpful to take a picture of a board, we would prefer students record the information in their notes rather than take a picture to prevent possible collaboration policy issues.

We reserve the right to add/remove policies as necessary to keep collaboration hours as effective as possible.