

# BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# Welcome to CMSC 452: Elementary Theory of Computation

**Today:  
Admin,  
Intro to Theory of  
Computation**

# Admin

# Necessary Administrative

Course Webpage:

<https://www.cs.umd.edu/users/gasarch/COURSES/452/S21/index.html>

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Course Zoom Site:

<https://umd.zoom.us/my/gasarch>

## Necessary administrative stuff

- ▶ Course Website: Will post slides, recordings, notes, and HW there. Will NOT be using canvas or elms.
- ▶ Gradescope: you will **submit HW** there.
- ▶ Gradescope: we will **grade HW** there.
- ▶ Regrade requests due within a week of the HW being graded.
- ▶ Piazza is great for asking questions.

IF you are auditing this class for whatever reason- perhaps you are having a hard time getting permission to take it, or perhaps you like the material but don't want to take it, let me know and I will put you on the class email list and invite you to join the Piazza.

# Office Hours and Contact Information

Prof Gasarch

- ▶ `gasarch@cs.umd.edu`, (301) 503-3157
- ▶ OH Tu & Thur 12:30-2:00  
`https://umd.zoom.us/my/gasarch`

TA Saadiq Shaik

- ▶ `saadiqks@gmail.com`
- ▶ OH Mon 10-12 `https://umd.zoom.us/j/6670074227`

TA Yaelle Goldschlag

- ▶ `yaelle.goldschlag@gmail.com`
- ▶ OH Wed 12-1 `https://umd.zoom.us/j/5803841177`

TA Eric Shen

- ▶ `eric.shen2000@gmail.com`
- ▶ OH Wed 4-5 `https://umd.zoom.us/j/6670074227`



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- ▶ Mathematical maturity.
- ▶ Ability to write **short** proofs. (This is not a course like **MATH410** where the point is RIGOR.)
- ▶ There will be one short programming project. (This is not a course like **Operating Systems** where the project IS the course.)

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- ▶ We will keep track of your lateness NOT for grade, but for recommendation letters.

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**I hear** Oh, so you forgot to hand it in MONDAY, then realized this, got it in on Wednesday before rec. You are telling me that you **appreciate** the Dead-Cat Policy!

I am not sure why you are telling me about time stamps, but, as the kids say, whatever.



# Textbook

**Required Text** None.

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There will be notes, slides, and recordings of lecture online.

# How to contact Prof or TAs

- ▶ Email: Please put “452” in subject line.
- ▶ Office hours
- ▶ Piazza
- ▶ We are around A LOT outside of office hours. It's not as though we're going anywhere!

# Elementary Theory of Computation

# Our Key Question

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This question permeates all branches of mathematics and computer science.

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**Example:** Gauss invented the Fast Fourier Transform but never told anyone since he did not think it was that important.

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6. HALT is undecidable (Turing, 1950's.)

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4. P, NP have many closure properties. We will prove this.

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5. We will define problems that are HARDER THAN HALT.

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