In previous years, students in this course have suggested that it would be helpful to have more thorough lecture notes than the slides provide. We have therefore reduced the number of problem sets and created a scribing requirement, which will also help you understand a topic of your choice in greater depth.

Each student taking 6.047/6.878 for credit must scribe one lecture. Given the size of the class, two or more students may end up scribing for most lectures, in which case you should collaborate to submit one set of scribe notes. Scribe notes should be submitted electronically to 6047-tas@mit.edu.

Please sign up at the course wiki: [http://6047.wikispaces.com/Scribing](http://6047.wikispaces.com/Scribing) or simply e-mail your preferences to 6047-tas@mit.edu. If you know another student with whom you would like to work, please sign up together.

### Guidelines for scribe notes

**Aims:** Together, the lecture slides and scribe notes should provide a self-contained narrative of each lecture. This means that the scribe notes can cite, copy, reuse or modify the slides as needed. They should also pay particular attention to issues that the slides don’t convey well on their own. For example: What is the background and motivation for the problem we are studying? How does each idea presented in the slides relate to the next? Is there an intuitive explanation for the complicated equation on the slide? Are there particular caveats, assumptions or exceptions to a statement? What were some particularly insightful questions and answers that we discussed? Were there any common misunderstandings or points of confusion? Did we stumble upon any good ideas for a final project? Of course, the course staff will be available to discuss or clarify each point.

**Formatting:** We encourage you to use LaTeX for scribe notes, but this is not required. Please submit a “source code” version of your notes, and also a PDF if possible.

**Resources available:** Since this is the second year for scribing in this class, there is already a set of scribes notes you can rely on, which you can find at [http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/6/fa07/6.047/](http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/6/fa07/6.047/). Because of the important resource that lectures from last year provide, we expect you to further improve on the lecture notes you’re scribing, if they have already been scribed the previous year. You should read the slides and notes from last year in advance of lecture, and find places that were unclear or lacked detail, which you can expand on based on the information from this year. You can also complete with additional examples that may be given in class, and work towards a more complete set that can help everyone in the class when revising for the midterm, and serve as a resource when taking on final projects. (Just like you can benefit from the course notes in previous years, the ones you produce will benefit the students in future years of the course.)

### Submission timeline

- **By 2PM, day of lecture:** the lecture slides will be posted on the course web site.
- **By 8PM, the day after the lecture:** a rough draft of your scribe notes is due.
- **By 8PM, six days after the lecture:** final version due (Mon. for Tue. lectures; Wed. for Thu. lectures).

If either of the above deadlines falls on the same day another assignment is due, then you receive an automatic two-day extension on the scribe notes deadline.

**First draft:** Given the time constraint of slightly over 24 hours, you should use the first draft to remind yourself and others in attendance of the salient points above, noting what will be expanded upon later. While we do not expect the first draft to be highly polished, its usefulness will be taken into account in your scribing grade. We will post the draft immediately so that other students can use it for review, and later send you feedback promptly with suggested enhancements.

**Final draft:** The final draft should present the lecture material in essay format, which can be used (in conjunction with the slides) as a mostly self-contained reference by you and your classmates for the midterm, final project, and future research.