How to Master CS 5301

CS 5301
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How to master this class:

• Prepare and practice each week!
• Do the practice problems from the outline
• You can practice in the labs: DERR 231 and MCS 590 (eclipse)
• Make sure your solutions are correct (compile, run, execute, test on sample data)
• Do some practice on paper, to prepare for quizzes
• in general, do NOT memorize code
• If you get stuck on a practice problem, get help! (come to office hours, etc.)

Problem solving steps

• Understand the problem description
• Generate a hypothetical solution
  - Think in terms of steps computer must perform
• Encode the solution (write the C++ code)
• Check your work
  - Trace your code, go through it step by step, carry out the instructions to see if they will solve the problem (you must be able to read code)
  - Look for errors in your solution (incorrect syntax, missing or misplaced { }, undefined variables, etc).