Welcome to computer science.

CS I is the gateway to learning how to program. Every other computer science course starts here. This class lays the foundations for understanding logical programs and their applications in data mining, artificial intelligence, computer gaming, biomedical informatics, and more. People who can program computers have a special ability. More than almost every other major here, computer science gives you a valuable skill, that will reward you long after you have graduated.

We will be using the Java programming language. Java is a modern, high-level language that is suitable for a wide variety of tasks. Almost anything that can be programmed, can be programmed in Java. It is also similar to many other programming languages, including C++, JavaScript, Perl, Python, PHP, C#, Go, and Ruby. The skills you learn here will be easily transferable to other languages.

By the end of this class, you will be able to understand, implement, and use in programs:

- Elementary arithmetic and string manipulation.
- Conditional logic.
- Loops, including nested loops.
- Functions and methods.
- Basic data structures, including arrays.
- Object-oriented programming.
- Basic graphics.
- Debugging and programming practices.

The class web page will be located at http://mathcs.pugetsound.edu/~aasmith/cs161/. Valuable info and links will be posted there.

The optional text we will use is “Java For Everyone (Late Objects)” by Cay Horstmann. This provides valuable supplementary material. Please consider buying it.

You should already have had three years of high school math, or taken MATH 110.

There will be twelve assignments over the course of the class—usually one each week. You are free to talk to others in the class about them, but I expect what you finally turn in to be 100% your own work. Assignments will be penalized by 20% for each working day (or fraction thereof) they are late, down to 40%. However, you will have five “extension days” during the semester to extend a deadline by one working day. They will be used automatically, unless you specify otherwise.

There will also be weekly lab assignments done in small groups. If your work compiles properly and appears to be a good-faith attempt, you will be given either 50% or 100%. Otherwise you will get 0%. You may keep trying so long as you have less than 100%.
You all should be aware of the Honor Code at the college. Please do not cheat—it will not go well for you. Any suspected cheating will be immediately reported.

Exams are closed book, and will be cumulative. You are allowed a calculator (or your phone, so long as it is in “airplane mode”) and one two-sided, letter-sized page of notes.

Grading

Final grades will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeworks</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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In particular, notice how heavily weighted assignments are. Missing assignments is the easiest way to get a lower grade. Please be sure you do them, and on time. In addition, class participation and effort may help bump you up, if your final grade is borderline.

Attendance

I will not be keeping attendance (except on the first day). However, odds are that your attendance will correlate highly with your final grade.

Miscellany

If there are any special holy days that you will be taking off, please let me know as soon as you can so that we can work around them.

Please consider getting a flu shot. Influenza kills, and disease can spread rapidly in the dorms. (And you really don’t want to miss a week of class. Trust me.)

Classroom Emergency Response Guidance: Please review university emergency preparedness, response procedures and a training video posted at www.pugetsound.edu/emergency/. There is a link on the university home page. Familiarize yourself with hall exit doors and the designated gathering area for your class and laboratory buildings.

If building evacuation becomes necessary (e.g. earthquake), meet your instructor at the designated gathering area so she/he can account for your presence. Then wait for further instructions. Do not return to the building or classroom until advised by a university emergency response representative.

If confronted by an act of violence, be prepared to make quick decisions to protect your safety. Flee the area by running away from the source of danger if you can safely do so. If this is not possible, shelter in place by securing classroom or lab doors and windows, closing blinds, and turning off room lights. Lie on the floor out of sight and away from windows and doors. Place cell phones or pagers on vibrate so that you can receive messages quietly. Wait for further instructions.

Student Accessibility and Accommodation: If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your coursework, please contact Peggy Perno, Director of Student Accessibility and Accommodation, 105 Howarth, 253.879.3399. She will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Copyright and Fair Use: Course materials are subject to the copyright law of the United States (Title 17 U.S. Code). They are for educational purposes only and limited to students enrolled in the course. Further reproduction or distribution is prohibited.

Bereavement: Students are normally eligible for, and faculty members are expected to grant, three consecutive weekdays of excused absences, without penalty, for the death of a family member, including parent, grandparent, sibling, or persons living in the same household. Should the student feel that additional days are necessary, the student must request additional bereavement leave from the Dean of Students or the Deans designee. In the event of the death of another family member or friend not explicitly included within this policy, a bereaved student may petition for grief absence through the Dean of Students office for approval.

To request bereavement leave, a student must notify the Dean of Students office by email, phone, or in person about the death of the family member. When bereavement leave is approved, the Dean of Students office will notify the student and the Office of Academic Advising. In turn, Academic Advising will notify the students instructors and advisor of the dates of the excused absences for bereavement leave. When the student returns from leave, the student must submit to the Dean of Students office an obituary notice, a funeral or memorial program, or other documentation regarding the death of a family member.

While this policy excuses a student from class attendance, the student remains responsible for missed academic work. Therefore, the student is to seek the advice of each instructor to consider the options and to establish a plan to compensate for coursework missed during bereavement leave. For more information, please contact the Dean of Students office.

Finally...if there’s anything else I can do to help you, please let me know. I’m willing to go out of my way to make this a valuable class for you, but I can’t do that unless you talk to me.