CSCI 161: Introduction to Computer Science
Course Syllabus – Fall 2014

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Office Hours: TBA, when door is open, or by appointment

Meeting Times: MWF 11:00-11:50 in TH 399 and Th 14:00-15:50 in TH 409
Course Page: http://cs.pugetsound.edu/~dchiu/CSCI161
Moodle: http://moodle.pugetsound.edu

1 Course Information

This course is an introduction to computer science and programming. The programming language Java is used to illustrate concepts in computer science. The course emphasizes the use of the computer as a problem-solving tool and the development of good programming style. CSCI 161 is the introductory course for students planning to major or minor in computer science. A weekly laboratory is required.

Prerequisites

Three years of high-school mathematics, MATH 110 Pre-Calculus, or equivalent.

Textbook


Course Topics

- Elementary arithmetic and string manipulation.
- Conditional logic.
- Loops.
- Methods / Functions.
- Debugging and programming practices.
- Arrays and basic data structures.
- Object-oriented programming.
2 Grading

Students will be evaluated on their performance on programming assignments, labs, and exams.

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<tr>
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<th>% Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Assignments</td>
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<td>Programming Assignments</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Midterms (×2)</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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Table 1: Breakdown of Grades

 Assignments

You will work with a partner on all programming assignments and labs. Collaboration among students is encouraged for problem interpretation, brainstorming, etc., but in general, I expect every pair of students to submit their own work. **That is, do not share code among pairs!**

- **Labs** – Lab assignments are downloadable from the class page and are always due on the date of the next lab on Moodle, unless stated otherwise. You will pair up with another student and switch roles halfway into the lab. Labs are graded on a 5 point scale.

- **Programming Assignment** – These programming assignments typically involve much more programming and integration than labs, and are therefore worth substantially more. They are usually due a week or two from the assigned date on Moodle. A description on how the work was split between the students must be provided in the README. Assignments are graded on a 100 point scale.

Each pair of students will be allowed three *extension days*, for which a pair can use to extend a deadline by one working day without penalty. After the extension days have been expended, each working day late incurs a 20% penalty. Please note that extension days will be used for you automatically on a late lab or programming assignment, unless you specify otherwise.

Exams

There will be two midterms and a final exam, which are all cumulative. They will cover material discussed in lectures, labs, and assignments. You are allowed a calculator and a half page of notes (front and back) on all exams.

Discretionary Points

If your final grade is borderline, discretionary points may be given to boost your score. These depend on a variety of things, including:

- Class and lab attendance and participation
- Turning in all assignments on time
- Refraining from activities that can disrupt others, *e.g.*, texting, playing games on your laptop, etc.
3 Course Policies

Class Disruptions

I understand the student’s need to have their phone on them to answer the occasional important call. I do ask that you please have your phones on vibrate and take the call outside the classroom out of respect for your fellow students. For each disruption-free period, I will reward you with bonus problems on the exams.

Academic Integrity

You should be aware of the Student Integrity Code at the university. Any suspected cheating (e.g., plagiarizing code, copying homework solutions, etc.) will be reported to the Registrar, which may result in possible suspension/expulsion. See this link for more info:

Student Accessibility and Accommodation

If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Peggy Perno, Director of the Office of Accessibility and Accommodation, 105 Howarth, 253.879.3395. She will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Classroom Emergency Response Guidance

Please review university emergency preparedness and response procedures posted at . 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.