Syllabus for CMSC 150

Fall Term 2020 11:30-12:15 MWF + Lab Mr. Gregg

Course Description and Objectives

CMSC 150 is an introductory course in computer programming with instruction in the Java language. The first objective of this course is to give you an introduction to programming in Java. The second objective is to begin the study of the discipline of computer science.

How this Course is Structured

We will meet three times a week for 45 minute lectures and once a week for a two hour lab session. In addition to the lab exercise, I will assign one problem from the textbook each week.

This course will be conducted remotely, with lectures and lab sessions taking place on Zoom. After each lecture I will post lecture notes to the course web site.

We will have one midterm exams and a final exam. All exams will be takehome exams - I will post the exam problems to the course web site and you will have 24 hours to complete your work on the problems and email me your work.

What I Will Expect of You

Although CMSC 150 is an introductory course, many students find it to be a challenging course. This course is challenging for a couple of reasons. The first is that most students arrive at this course with absolutely no prior experience with computer programming. That is fine, because the course is organized around the assumption that students coming into CMSC 150 have no prior exposure to programming. However, this course does move along at a pretty good pace, so you will have to start applying yourself diligently from the very beginning. Another challenge comes from the fact that what we are learning is highly cumulative. Each new topic in the course builds on what comes before it, so it is especially important that you keep up with what we are doing.

My biggest single expectation is that you maintain good work habits and manage your time well. Here are some specific things I recommend you do throughout the term.

- I will post lecture notes and/or give a reading assignments from the text after each lecture. You should review those notes and/or do the reading as soon as possible.
- I will usually allow at least five days for each homework assignment. You should start working on each assignment on the day it is assigned. Because programming is sometimes tricky and intricate, it is very easy to get stuck on some small technical detail. Almost always I can clear up simple problems for you quickly and easily, but you have to build time into the process to ask for help when you run into trouble.
- Come see me in office hours if you need help. If you need more sustained and extensive assistance, please work with one of our CAS tutors.

Grading Policy

Assignments and exams have the following weights:

Labs and Homework - 70% Midterm exam - 10% Final exam - 20%

Late policy for assignments is that I will accept assignments late with a penalty of 5% per day late. Most assignments will require that you turn in your work at a specific time. If you turn your work in on the same day but after the time it was due I will still count off 5%. If you need an extension, please contact me before the assignment is due.

Textbook

Our text is *Introduction to Java Programming, Eleventh Edition (Comprehensive Version)* by Y. Daniel Liang.

Schedule of Topics

Week	Topic
1	Intro to Java
1	Decision structures
2	Loops
3-4	Methods
5-6	Arrays
6-7	Classes
8	Container Classes
9-10	Application Development

Office Hours

Office hours for this course are 3-5 M-F. During office hours I will be available in my Zoom personal meeting space. I will send the link for that personal meeting space to you via email.

Course Web Site

The course web site is at http://www.lawrence.edu/fast/greggj/cmsc150.html. The web site will feature lecture notes and other supplementary materials.

NetBeans Software

We will be using version 12 of the NetBeans development environment in this course. Please see the instructions posted on the course web site to download and install this software.