CSCI 150 Spring 2008
Introduction to Computer Science

Contact Info

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<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>M 2-3pm W 2-4pm F 1-2pm</td>
<td>MWF 11-noon, 2:30-3:30</td>
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Overview

CSCI 150 is an introductory course in computer science, with an emphasis on problem solving using the Java programming language. We want our students to gain exposure to the topics that are the foundation of computer science, such as algorithm design, program organization, recursion and induction, object-oriented programming, and data structures. Java is the principal programming language, but this is not a course on Java. No programming experience whatsoever is expected.

Course Resources

We are using Reges and Stepp’s *Building Java Programs*, published by Addison Wesley, 2008.

The current schedule, readings, labs, and announcements will be posted on the course website, which can be found at [www.cs.oberlin.edu/~asharp/cs150/index.htm](http://www.cs.oberlin.edu/~asharp/cs150/index.htm).

Course events such as lectures, homework deadlines, and tests are posted on the course’s very own google calendar; you can find this calendar by searching google’s public calendars for CS 150.

We use JDK 1.5 as our official compiler. You are welcome to use any compiler you wish for your assignments, so long as it also compiles with our JDK 1.5.

For public access to JEdit, Emacs, Vim, and Java, you may use the labs in King 135 and King 201. You’ll need to see Jackie Fortino in King 223 to get access to these labs.

Course Requirements

- **Ten** labs — expect to spend up to 6 hours per week outside of class on these.
- **Ten** prelabs — expect to spend an hour on each prelab before you start the lab proper.
- **Two** in-class tests — expect some algorithmic thinking and coding questions.
- **One** final exam — expect a longer test.

**Weekly** attendance — expect to be at each lab until told otherwise.

Grades will be posted on blackboard as soon as they are known.
Labs and Prelabs | 55%
Midterms | 20%
Final Exam | 20%
Attendance, Participation, and Quizzes | 5%

**Late Policy**

Late prelabs will not be accepted.

Late labs are strongly discouraged. You may hand up to two labs one day late, after which we will choose a fitting penalty.

If for some reason (such as illness) you are unable to complete a lab or take a test, please talk to one of the instructors as soon as possible. We will handle these situations on a case-by-case basis.

**Tutors**

There are tutors available, provided by Oberlin College. If you think you’d like such a tutor, just contact us and we’ll hook you up.

**Student Disabilities**

If you require special accommodation (such as additional time to complete exams), please speak to me during the first week of class so that she has time to make suitable arrangements. You must be registered with Laura Slocum Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities.

**Honor Code**

We take the honor code very seriously, and will report any violations to the Honor Code Committee.

In general, it is OK to talk with other students about the labs, but you have to be very careful about how much you collaborate. Discussing an algorithm, approach, or general form of code is acceptable. However, cooperation should never involve other students possessing a copy of all, or a portion of, your work, regardless of format. As a rule of thumb, try not to write or type anything down; you should be able to recreate your discussion without anyone’s help. Please do not hand in work done with (or by) someone else under your own name. The course staff are very skilled at finding similarities in code, so please don’t break the rules. We trust you, and hope this trust won’t be violated. If you are unsure about anything, please ask.

You must write the Honor Pledge and sign at the end of each and every submission. Electronic submissions must include the honor pledge in the comments and your name. The pledge is

“I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment.”

More details and tips on the Honor Code can be found on the course website.