Overview of Computer Science

CSC 101 — Summer 2011

Course Introduction

Lecture 1 — July 6, 2011

Course Introduction

• Instructor: Edward Pryor, Ph.D.
  - pryoree@wfu.edu
• Office
  - Manchester 229
  - 336-716-2986
• Office Hours
  - After class
  - Or by appointment

CSC 101 vs. 111

• Two entry-level computer science courses satisfy the Division V requirement
  - None of them require previous programming experience
• CSC 101 is an Overview of computer science
  - Broad coverage of many aspects of the discipline
  - For anyone with an interest in computers who may not take any further computing courses
  - No credit towards the CS major or minor
• CSC 111 is an Introduction to computer science
  - Intended as a first course for those who may continue in CS or for those who wish to gain experience applicable to other disciplines
  - CSC 111a — General Purpose Computing with Java
  - CSC 111b — Multimedia and Game Programming with Python
  - CSC 111d — Mobile Apps and Entrepreneurship
  - Does count towards the CS major and minor
Course Introduction

• Course web page:
  – Contains important information about the course
  – http://www.wfu.edu/~pryoree/
• Required Textbook:
  – The Pattern on the Stone: The simple ideas that make computers work
  – W. Daniel Hillis
  – ISBN-10 046502596X

Course Introduction

• Course web page:
  – Contains important information about the course
  – http://www.wfu.edu/~pryoree/
• Reference Textbook:
  – Computer Science Illuminated, 3rd ed.
      Nell Dale & John Lewis
      Jones and Bartlett, pub.
      ISBN 0-7637-4149-3
      Companion Website:
      http://csilluminated.jbpub.com/

Why Are We Here?

• Topics covered in this course:
  – Digital computer hardware and the software that makes it work
  – Networks, including the Internet and the World Wide Web
  – Digital media and networking as mechanisms for information exchange
  – The ethical, moral, societal and legal issues of life in the Digital Age
  – The historical context of modern digital technologies
• With the overall goal:
  – To develop an awareness of the many facets of the broad discipline we call “computer science”
What This Course Is Not

• Topics not covered in this course:
  – How to use a computer or particular software
    • This isn’t a computer fluency course
      …although you will use some new software in lab
  – How to program a computer
    • This isn’t a programming course
      …although you will do some programming in lab
• Considering a BS, BA, or minor in Computer Science?
  • CSC 101 earns no credit towards the CS major or minor
  • CSC 111 is the appropriate first course

Course Introduction

• Lecture topics are listed on the course calendar
  – Available on the course web site
  – Includes reading assignments
• Lecture notes will be posted after each lecture
  – Links will be added to the course calendar as the files become available
• Course calendar also includes exam dates and assignment due dates

Course Introduction

• The laboratory course (CSC 101L) is a corequisite to this course
• Laboratory web site: http://www.wfu.edu/~pryoree/labs/
  – Also accessible via the link on the course web site
• Print out the lab manual before coming to lab
  – There is no printer in the lab
• There are also pre-lab readings and exercises for the first lab – do these before coming to lab
• Bring your laptop with power cord and network connection to lab
• Labs start on Tuesday 7/12/11
Course Introduction

- Attendance at lectures and labs is mandatory and part of your final grade
  - Please provide schedules ASAP if you have activities that will require you to miss any class meetings
  - Sickness is excusable, but please email me before the class you will miss
  - No make-up assignments will be administered unless pre-arranged with me
  - Each Missed class will reduce your final grade by one point for a maximum of 5 points

Course Introduction

- Evaluation:
  - Attendance: 5%
  - Quizzes: 20%
    - Three in-class quizzes (7/15, 7/29, 8/5) will be given on Fridays
    - Quiz will include both lecture and lab materials
  - Laboratory: 25%
    - Includes 8 labs, each lab due by 5:00pm the day following the lab session
  - 8 Writing Assignments: 10%
  - Midterm Exam (7/22): 15%
  - Cumulative Final Exam (8/9): 25%

Course Introduction

- Grading Policy:
  - Course grade based on percentage of total points
  - No curves

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>≥ 92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A−</td>
<td>90 → 91.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>88 → 89.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82 → 87.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B−</td>
<td>80 → 81.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>78 → 79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72 → 77.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C−</td>
<td>70 → 71.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>68 → 69.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62 → 67.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D−</td>
<td>60 → 61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Course Policies

- Course announcements will frequently be made via email
  - It is your responsibility to check your email
- Please do not use electronic devices during class
  - Including laptops
- We will meet at 8am tomorrow for class (no official lab)

Any Questions?