

# Exam 1 Format

- Deployed on Canvas, but must take it in the classroom or via DRC arrangement
  - Must sign in – sign-in sheet will be passed along during the exam time
  - Bring Bronco ID or any other form of ID
- Open-book test
  - Use your own words/examples to answer questions
  - Tell your own stories if the question asks for your opinions/experiences/...
  - If you must use/copy someone else's work, quote it “ .. ” and cite reference.
- Standard time: 70 minutes

# Question Format

- Simple questions
  - multiple choices, true/false, fill in blanks, ...
- Short answer questions
  - describe a language “feature” in your own words
  - explain a code example using language features
  - illustrate a language feature using code examples (don’t copy online examples)
  - brief justification, pros/cons etc.
    - Use language evaluation criteria and followed by justification
    - That include pros/cons, advantages/disadvantages, supporting which criterion, ...

# Question Group – multiple version of a question

- Each question is associated with a group of questions
  - Random choice
- You're welcome to study with your group members, however, for the test, even for group language related questions, we're not asking for group consensus, each member should have his/her own opinion in answering a question
- Also, a question may have multiple versions, so you and your study partner may get different version of a question
  - don't compare answers during and after the test
  - don't discuss test problems until after the test has been graded
  - Never release test problems (especially online!)

# Review Strategies (for your reference only)

- Read textbook covered chapters/sections
- Study lecture slides
- Go over quizzes and homework problems
- Review your group activity assignments
- Searching your memory for what covered in group sharing
  - Close your eyes, think about what you've benefited from group sharing
  - Make a summary of the important facts covered in Activity 2

# Coverage

- Lecture 1: Language evolution and evaluation criteria
  - Basic ideas (common sense) on language evolution
  - Evaluation criteria
- Lecture 2: Syntax and semantics
  - Definitions of syntax/semantics, syntax/semantic errors
  - Understanding of EBNF
  - Description of simple codes using operational semantics
- Lecture 3: Names/variables, scoping and lifetime
  - Attributes of variables
  - Lifetime (meaning/definition); 4 categories of variables; 4 categories of arrays
  - Scope rules, nested scopes, static/dynamic scoping

# Coverage (cont.)

- Lecture 4: Data Types
  - Data type: type name, range of values, set of operations
  - Mutable and immutable data types
  - Problems with pointers
  - Trends in the design
- Lecture 5: Expressions
  - Various types of expressions (arithmetic, relational, Boolean, conditional, ...)
  - Evaluation orders, short-circuit evaluations
  - Assignments
    - Augmented, increment and decrement assignments
    - multiple and multiple target assignments, ...
    - Assignments as expressions

# Free-style Questions

- From group sharing
  - General ideas on the trends of language design
  - Your personal impression on what shared by the groups
  - ...
- Your group language
  - Need to know the covered language features
  - Doesn't involve extensive coding
    - Simple code examples may be required

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See sample questions  
in the following slides

# Sample Questions

- The following slides show a few sample questions
- These sample questions are used:
  - to illustrate question style/format only
  - not implying complete coverage



# Group Languages

Note: some are open questions, i.e. without standard answers. However, if justification needed, please state clearly.

- Your group language – short answer question.
  - What categories of arrays supported by your language? For each category give a “code” example.
  - In terms of array data type, do you think your language’s support has better/worse readability/writability/reliability than Java? Justify briefly.
- Group Sharing
  - During the presentations of group activities, we got to know some languages don’t have explicitly type declarations.

**True/False:** If a language doesn’t have explicitly type declarations, it must be a weakly typed language, i.e. not all type errors could be caught.

**Short answer:** implicit type declarations or optional type declarations are getting popular with the newer languages. In your opinion, what are the advantages and disadvantages of using implicit/optional type declaration? Briefly justify your answer.

# Lecture 1: Overview and Evaluation Criteria

- Sample question on evaluation criteria
  - E.g. Java enforces array index range checking. With regard to language evaluation criteria, this strategy enhances which of the following? Choose best answer.
    - A. Readability
    - B. Writability
    - C. Reliability
    - D. Portability

# Lecture 2: Syntax and Semantics

- Review Homework 1
- Java-like language
- Syntax error, semantic error, or no error?

```
int x = 10, y = 20;  
while (x < y) {x++; result += y*2; };
```

- Compile-time error, run-time error, or no error

```
int x = -5, y = 2;  
do {x++; result += y*2; } while (x+y);
```

# Lecture 3: Names, Bindings, Scope, and Lifetime

- Anonymous variables

- A variable may have name or be anonymous. Identify **how many** variables (including anonymous variables) are there in the following Java-like code?

```
double f;
```

```
String s = new String ("hi");
```

A: 1    B: 2    C: 3 (including anonymous object)    D: 4

- 4 categories of variables
  - Static, stack dynamic, explicit heap dynamic, implicit heap dynamic
  - (note: 4 categories of arrays: static, fixed stack dynamic, fixed heap dynamic, heap dynamic; note: some language uses stack dynamic – see sharing.)

C++ like code:

```
double f (int x, int y) { .... }
```

x and y belong to which category of variable?

- A. static
- B. stack dynamic
- C. explicit heap dynamic

# Lecture 4: Data Types

- Homework 2
- Array category
  - Java-like array

`int[] a = new int[5];`

which category of array it belongs to?

- A. static
- B. stack dynamic
- C. fixed stack dynamic
- D. fixed heap dynamic
- E. Implicit heap dynamic

- Pointer problems

C++ like code, what problem may arise from the following code?

```
int *p;  
p = new int[10];  
...  
p = new int[100];
```

- A. Memory leak (uncollected garbage space)
- B. null pointer
- C. Unsafe access of unallocated memory location via pointer

# Sample short answer questions

- Java array: homogeneous array
- Python list: heterogeneous array
- What is your view in supporting arrays in programming languages?  
State pros and cons and briefly justify your answer.
  - 1) Should a language support both homogeneous and heterogeneous array types (i.e. one data type for homogeneous array and another data type for heterogeneous array)
  - 2) just homogeneous arrays
  - 3) just heterogeneous arrays



# Lecture 5: Expressions and Assignments

True or False: Operator precedence and associativity rules are defined mathematically, thus Ruby and Java have the same precedence and associativity rules.

**Simple or short answer questions:** Given the following Java-like code (note: code may be incomplete),

f(): a function

```
b = true;           //b a Boolean variable
b = b || d();
return b;
```

d(): a function

```
displays "d() executed";
return true;
```

Question: When f() is called, will **d() executed** be displayed? Why or why not?

## Sample Short answer question:

What is short circuit evaluation?

What are advantages of short circuit evaluation?

Write a code example that involve short circuit evaluation and use this example to explain the advantage of using short circuit evaluation?

Give a code example that illustrates augmented assignment.

What are the advantages of using augmented assignment? (name 2)

End of review.

Questions, discussions?